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DEATHS.

On the 23rd January, at her residence, Cavendish Crescent, N., The Park, Nottingham, ROSE HANNAH, widow of the late W. H. BELL, of Hongkong [539]

On Monday, 24th February, at the Government Civil Hospital, Hongkong, PERCY REDGRAVE WILSON, aged 28 years. Deeply regretted. [546]

On the 27th of December, 1895, at Laohok'ou rid Hankow, China, ANNIE M. PARROTT, wife of ALBERT GEORGE PARROTT, M.R.C.S. (England), L.R.C.P. (London), aged 40 years.

At 26, Newchwang Road, Shanghai, on the 14th February, 1896, ELIZABETH, the beloved wife of HENRY BURTON, Assistant Overseer of Municipal Council Roads, aged 50 years.

At Shanghai General Hospital, on the 14th February, 1896, VALDEMAR JULIUS NIELSEN, of the Great Northern Telegraph Co., aged 28 years.

At Shanghai General Hospital, on the 15th February, 1896, S. J. WILLIAMS, late second engineer, revenue cruiser *Pingching*, aged 52 years.

At Shanghai, on the 19th February, 1896, JOHN LEWIN MILLER, aged 58 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 24th January arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Rosetta*, on the 23rd February (30 days); the American mail of the 28th January arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, on the 26th February (29 days); and the Canadian mail of the 4th February arrived, per C. P. steamer *Empress of Japan*, on the 26th February (22 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Nova Scotian barque *Lynnwood* was wrecked on the Pratas on the 16th February, while on a voyage from Shanghai to Manila.

Mr. S. Leslie, of the Customs Staff at Ningpo, left Shanghai on the 19th February for Hangchow to make arrangements with the authorities there for the early opening of that port.

The death is reported of Mr. S. J. Morris, an old Shanghai resident and well-known civil and mining engineer, who died in Yokohama, whither he had gone in the hope being restored to health.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—There is no doubt now that H. E. Chang Chih-tung will shortly leave Nanking for his former Viceroyalty, and he has already sent away his family in the *Haean*.

Reports from Tientsin agree that the river will be open very soon, and it is arranged, we learn from the *China Gazette*, that the first batch of steamers will leave Shanghai about the 3rd March.

Mr. J. I. Miller, a well-known resident of Shanghai and District Grand Master of the District Grand Lodge of Northern China, died at Shanghai on the 19th February. His funeral was attended by the Masonic fraternity.

Li Hung-chang is to go to Russia to be present at the coronation of the Czar. Passages have been engaged for His Excellency and suite by the M.M. line. Japan will be represented at the ceremony by the Marquis Ito, the Premier.

At Shanghai on the 13th February fourteen native houses in the French Concession were destroyed by fire and on the same day three houses occupied by members of the British Consular staff in Pekin Road were also seriously damaged by fire.

The *China Gazette* repeats that the Queen of Korea is still alive. In view of the circumstantial reports of the murder of Her Majesty that have appeared, the statement of our contemporary requires to be supported by evidence before it can be accepted.

At Kobe on the 14th February a fire broke out in Sakaimachi, at about 2 a.m., and burned through to the Native Bund, making a clean sweep of several blocks. Several offices in the occupation of foreigners, as well as a part of the old Hyogo Hotel, were destroyed. The *Hyogo News* office barely escaped. The area covered with the ruins is probably two *cho*.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* of the 1st inst. says:—An important memorial relating to the treatment of Christian Missions by the Chinese Government, especially urging the suppression of slanderous anti-missionary literature, has been presented to the Emperor through the Tsungli Yamèn by Rev. T. Richard. So far as we are informed, no response has yet been given, but a favourable one is hoped for.

A very destructive fire occurred in Yokohama on the morning of the 8th February. It broke out in a building that was being erected for the Methodist Episcopal Mission at the extreme end of the Western Bluff, and the houses of the Rev. H. Loomis, Mr. Alexander Clark, Rev. W. S. Worden, Rev. J. G. Cleveland, and Messrs. G. F. Gordo, L. Ph. von Hemert, F. da Roza, V. F. Barradas, and R. Schuffner were destroyed.

Russia has disclaimed any idea of annexing Korea, but declares her intention to secure the autonomy of the country. Mr. Curzon has stated in the House of Commons that the British Government considers the Russian pledge not to occupy any port in Korea as still binding.

The report of the National Bank of China, Limited, shows that the profit earned during the last half-year amounts to \$31,077, which with \$40,501 brought forward from 30th June makes the total undivided profits \$71,578, from which the directors propose to transfer \$20,000 to the reserve fund and to pay the same dividend as before, i.e. 2/6 per share, which absorbs \$47,359, leaving the sum of \$4,218 to be carried forward to next account.

The report of the Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Limited, which was adopted at the meeting held on the 25th February, shows that the net profit for the year, including \$915 brought forward, amounts to \$10,098, but as the year under review has received little or no benefit from the present and prospective increase in the rent roll a sum of \$10,400 has been added from the equalisation of dividend fund, which permits of the payment of a dividend of 7 per cent., and the carrying forward to credit of profit and loss account of \$2,718.

The *British North Borneo Herald* says:—"It is satisfactory to note that in addition to cotton and hemp plantations now being opened on behalf of residents elsewhere, a powerful Hongkong syndicate is looking out for sugar-cane land in this neighbourhood. That the cane will flourish here, even when cultivated solely by natives, whose ideas of planting are so crude that they result in little more than letting the canes take care of themselves, has already been proved. Under foreign auspices such an enterprise is sure of success, so far as the production of good cane is concerned. The opening of a pioneer estate on a fairly large scale will probably mark an era in our industrial history." Elsewhere the same paper says:—"Mr. Macgregor Smith is here on a sugar-planting enterprise. He has visited several localities to select suitable land, and, we understand, represents capitalists in Hongkong and China."

In an article on the opening of the Chinese New Year the *N. C. Daily News* says:—The past year has been one of the best ever known to the native traders, and the one on which we entered on Thursday promises to be a satisfactory one. An undeniable indication of this is the fact that all the thirty-one native banks in the Settlement are resuming business when the holidays are over, and thirteen new ones, well backed by native capitalists, are to be opened. There is no indication as yet that the boom in land has culminated. The four *mow* plot of ground, with some very old buildings on it, in Canton Road, opposite the Concordia Club, has been sold to Mr. R. S. Raphael for \$10,500, and it is reported that the house and grounds known as Mr. Peter Maclean's on the Markham Road have been sold for something like £18,300,000, and Jardine's Paddock, also on the Markham Road, for £18,750,000. There is also a report that the Taotai has been instructed to consent to the extension of the Settlement westward to to Jessfield and Sicawei, and we hope to be able to confirm this shortly.

ENGLISH DEMANDS ON CHINA.

Politically in South China the question of the hour is that of the opening of the West River. To say that it has not become somewhat stale, or that the delays which attend its discussion have not become wearisome, would perhaps be inaccurate, to put it mildly. The question has come up over and over again; it has been discussed *ad nauseam*; and every argument in favour of the great inland waterway being made free to the navigation of foreign steamers has been advanced and pressed on the attention of the Governments of Great Britain and China. On two or three occasions the time for urging this question on the Tsungli Yamen has seemed so propitious, the arguments to be presented in favour of the concession so incontrovertible, that scarcely a doubt was entertained of its being yielded. But the public either exaggerated the persuasive powers of the British Minister or underrated the obstinate contumacy of the Chinese mandarins. The British Government had a long account to settle with China; and this account has, again and again, been increased, but there has been no limit, hitherto, to Anglo-Saxon patience and forbearance, and the mandarins must ere now have arrived at the comfortable conviction that John Bull's forbearance is a soundless depth. He may, they argue, fume a little and may even threaten, but he will not proceed to action. Of course this conviction may prove to be a mistake, for the Lion does occasionally awake and his anger is then terrible, but it certainly takes a great deal to rouse him, and it is so long since his anger was felt in China that the memory of it has paled. Then, again, he has not seemed in real earnest in demanding reparation for the Yangtze Valley, Szechuen, and Kucheng riots and massacres. True, he demanded the punishment of the immediate instruments in the perpetration of these abominable crimes, but has he yet seriously insisted on reparation for the wrong? Does not the Chinese Government imagine that a few taels of silver and a few blood-stained heads of coolies have sufficiently condoned those crimes against humanity and civilisation?

If, as we believe, through the pre-occupation of the Foreign Office and the lethargy of the British Minister at Peking, this be the case, it is small wonder that the negotiations for the opening of the West River to foreign trade make scant progress. We note that the Peking correspondent of our Shanghai morning contemporary, writing on the 24th ultimo, announces that "another ultimatum was presented to the Tsungli Yamen by the British Chargé d'Affaires, demanding the opening of the West River." If this be true, it is doubtless as a corollary to the settlement arrived at with France with regard to the Mekong question. A reckoning would have to be come to with China for having, without authorisation, ceded territory in the Shan country to France which England had ceded to her as a third party. Even this does not, in the estimation of the Peking mandarins, constitute a sufficient claim for England to ask for the opening of the West River. They are prepared to take all and give none: their presumption and assurance are literally boundless. The correspondent above quoted, speaking on the reluctance of the Chinese Government to come to a settlement on this question, says:—"The Chinese Ministers have, among themselves, resolved upon this step [the opening of the river] in the interests of their own revenue, and very little pressure is needed to influence them to adopt this action."

"They see that, unless this is done, the trade of Kwangsi, Eastern Yunnan, and Western Kwangtung will in a few years flow southwards through Tonkin, and the duties thereupon will be completely lost to them. The Chinese Government, like other Governments, want some *quid pro quo* and so they have made it a condition of opening the river to foreign trade that Great Britain do not take back the territory ceded to her by the Burmo-China Convention." It seems that according to report, Lord SALISBURY, with a view of punishing China for breaking the treaty by the cession to France of Mangü and Utai in Chiangheng province, now demands the opening of the West River and the retrocession of the Burman Shan territory handed over by England by treaty to China. The British Minister for Foreign Affairs will, it is to be hoped, hold strongly to this point, for he is sure to get it by insistence.

But, if this story be true, how comes it that no reparation is asked for the foul massacres which have so disgraced China? Can it be true that Lord SALISBURY, following the ROSEBERY lead, has contented himself with the mere exaction of blood for blood and silver for destruction of property. Surely this cannot be the fact! Justice may have been delayed; the case for the missionaries has not, let us hope, been suffered to drop. Of what value are the heads of a few coolies—human flesh is so cheap in the Central Kingdom!—as compared with those of delicately nurtured and educated Englishmen, women, and children, who personally had given no possible offence to the wretches who planned the murders, and who are still, we doubt not, at liberty to plot new crimes against the foreigner? Only the other day a mandarin, whose sole claim to distinction seems to have been the authorship of an anti-foreign work, was advanced to one of the highest offices in his province. In this open manner does the Imperial Government reward those who incite to riot and violence against the foreigner. The statement of this Peking correspondent may, however, rest on only a slight foundation, perhaps merely the fact that Mr. BEAULIER is once more discussing the West River question with the Tsungli Yamen. We hope that this and some other scarcely less burning questions are being actively negotiated at Peking. We want the West River opened up to foreign trade because we are satisfied that it would benefit not only foreign but native trade also. We also want it because trade with the interior of Southern China by means of transit passes is wholly impossible on account of the obstruction of the provincial officials. We urge the step from no feeling of hostility to France, who will still have a grand opportunity to open up a magnificent trade route through Tonkin. And we are prompted by no selfish desire to gain an exclusive privilege, for, if obtained, the concession will be general, and all nations who can will benefit. The Governments of Kwangsi and Kweichow will, moreover, if steamers be allowed to navigate the West River, be able to procure supplies of food in time of drought and scarcity which will enable them to avert the famines that have in former years played such havoc in the interior of those provinces. But we want, in addition, a rectification of the boundaries of this colony—the political, strategical, and commercial importance of which become daily more apparent—such as will enable us, living and trading within it, to make ourselves secure from all attack whether

threatened from the adjoining mainland or from the adjacent islands to the south. And no time more opportune than the present for insisting on this concession is ever likely to occur.

MR. ANDREW AND THE TRANSIT PASS TRADE.

Mr. JOHN ANDREW is rendering an important service to trade in South China. Possibly the service may not be quite voluntary, but it is none the less valuable on that account. He is sticking tenaciously to his cargo at Wuchow, and though no doubt he would be glad if he could close up his accounts and return to the comforts of civilisation circumstances compel him to remain. Unpleasant as the circumstances may be to Mr. ANDREW personally they are not to be regretted from a public point of view, for they have brought to a head the long pending question of transit passes in the South and a solution has now become imperative. Here we have a British merchant lawfully conveying goods into the interior under transit pass confronted by an organised boycott on the part of the Chinese authorities, who have terrorised his customers into throwing over their bargains and refraining from having any further dealings with him. It is inconceivable that the British Government can tolerate such a flagrant violation of treaty rights. There is but one course to pursue, and that is to insist not only on the opening of the West River to trade, but also on the issue and full recognition of transit passes in accordance with the terms of the treaty and an ample indemnity to Mr. ANDREW for the loss and discomfort and inconvenience to which he has been subjected. The case is an absolutely clear and clean one and the British Government could desire no better ground on which to urge the claim for a radical alteration and improvement in the conditions under which trade in foreign goods is carried on in South China. From the account published in another column it will be seen that the official obstruction is supported by a commercial combination to which it has given rise. The right of collecting lekin on cotton yarn and piece goods has been farmed by a Hongkong Company, and it is this Company, composed of men who would benefit most materially by the adoption of more honest and liberal trading regulations, that is at the bottom of the obstruction in the present case. It is a vice of Chinese fiscal system that it gives rise to such combinations as that of the Tong Yick Tong, thus bringing to the support of its own corruption the very elements upon which it battens. However, the Tong Yick Tong are in the background and do not appear as parties to the case. We have on the one side Mr. ANDREW trying to carry through a legitimate commercial venture and on the other the Chinese Government as represented by its officials riding roughshod over the treaties and forcibly restricting trade. It is for the British Government to step in and see justice done to its subject; the duty is one which cannot be evaded and which there ought to be no desire to evade. Negotiations for the opening of the West River have for some time been in progress at Peking, and they must necessarily touch some of the points raised by Mr. ANDREW's case, but in the meantime it would have a very salutary effect if a gunboat were sent up to Wuchow with instructions to bring Mr. ANDREW back with the full price of his cargo and a liberal indemnity for his loss of time and the trouble and inconvenience

to which he has been subjected. It would then be open to Mr. ANDREW to embark on another venture of the same kind, and if he again met with obstruction the treatment might be repeated as in the former case, and so on until the Chinese authorities got tired of paying and became convinced that it would be more to their own interest to let trade run a free course. The facilitating of trade would be a very profitable employment for a gunboat and would be fully justified by the circumstances. Mr. ANDREW is in no personal danger, we believe; it is simply on commercial grounds that we advocate the application of the gunboat policy in the present instance. The gunboat would act as a true commercial missionary and all parties would benefit by its ministrations—the Chinese Government by an increased revenue, the Chinese people by obtaining articles of import at cheaper rates, the British merchant by an accession of trade, and the British Government by obtaining increased respect from the native authorities.

RUSSIA, JAPAN, AND KOREA.

A Reuter's telegram reports that Japan is indignant at Russia's action in Korea. After the recent murder of the Queen of Korea, instigated by the Japanese Minister, and apparently condoned by the Mikado's Government, Japanese indignation at anything Russia or any other Power may do in Korea will not command much public sympathy. The dastardly conduct of Viscount MIURA, his acquittal by the Preliminary Tribunal, and the restoration of his patent of nobility (of which he had been deprived during his trial) must seriously damage the good name of Japan and alienate the respect and sympathy she previously commanded. In referring to this subject some days ago we remarked upon the silence of the *Japan Mail* in regard to the judgment of the Hiroshima court. That journal has since published a translation of the judgment and commented upon it. The *Japan Mail* is accused by its local contemporaries of being subsidised by the Japanese Government, an accusation which we believe is not founded on fact, but although it may not be subsidised the paper so ably edited by Captain BRINKLEY consistently supports Japanese interests and is generally cognisant of the policy of the Japanese Government. Importance therefore attaches to its utterances on Japanese questions. In the present instance, however, the editor appears to have been left without any inspiration and has had to deal with the case according to the light of his own judgment and conscience. The testimony adduced before a preliminary tribunal in Japan not being published, our contemporary professes itself "unable to form any opinion as to whether the Hiroshima Court had evidence warranting the account it gives of Viscount MIURA's doings." "But," the article continues, "having placed that account on record and having then and there released Viscount MIURA, on the ground that evidence sufficient to commit him for trial was not forthcoming, the tribunal cannot escape the disgrace of having set the laws of the land at defiance and perpetrated one of the most flagrant injustices ever committed by a court of law. . . . Nothing could possibly be more injurious to the reputation of the Japanese Judiciary." This is heavy condemnation, coming from such a quarter. Our contemporary, in fact, makes no attempt to defend either Viscount MIURA or the Court which tried him, but it does attempt to show that the Japanese

Government itself is not responsible for the miscarriage of justice which has occurred. The argument adopted is not very convincing. What it amounts to is this, that the Government, having caused MIURA's arrest and arraignment on a capital charge, must naturally have desired that its action should be vindicated by the judgment of a court of law, and that if the Hiroshima tribunal had acted in obedience to official suggestion, or been in any degree under official guidance, it would never have been suffered to pursue a course so clumsy, so glaringly unjust, as to bring contempt upon all concerned. But the clumsiness of the course pursued by the Hiroshima tribunal does not necessarily dispose of the suspicion that it may have had instructions to acquit the accused; hirelings are often clumsy in carrying out the instructions of their employers. Nor does the fact that the Government brought MIURA to trial necessarily argue a desire for his conviction; persons are sometimes brought to trial for the purpose of being whitewashed. Incidentally our contemporary admits in the course of its argument that while "theoretically the Japanese Judiciary is entirely independent of the Executive, the judges are poorly paid officers, lacking as yet a full sense of the dignity of the Bench and scarcely likely to obey the dictates of justice only in a case where great political issues are involved." It is rather difficult to reconcile that opinion with our contemporary's continuous advocacy of placing foreigners under the jurisdiction of the Japanese Courts; but that is merely by the way and has nothing to do with the question now under discussion, namely, whether the Japanese Government can be fixed with responsibility for the miscarriage of justice which has occurred. Notwithstanding our contemporary's argument it appears to us, we regret to say, that there is a strong *prima facie* case against the Government. The judgment of a preliminary court is not final, but can be appealed against. Why did the Government not appeal against the judgment of the Hiroshima court? Why, furthermore, was MIURA's patent of nobility restored to him after the trial? We are not sufficiently acquainted with the law governing patents of nobility in Japan to say what powers the Government may possess with regard to them, but as some of the vernacular journals express dissatisfaction with the leniency shown by the Imperial court the inference is that the Government had power to make the deprivation of MIURA's patent permanent. If the Government has failed to use all means in its power to visit the ex-Minister with its displeasure and to bring him to justice it must be held to have made itself *particeps criminis* in one of the foulest outrages recorded in history.

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND SIAM.

The last mail brought out the full text of the agreement between England and France concerning Siam and the notes which have been respectively published by the two Governments in explanation thereof. The summaries of the agreement itself which have already appeared are sufficiently accurate, and the interest now centres in the intentions of the two Governments as expressed in their notes. Lord SALISBURY in his note to Lord DUFFERIN explains that a particular area has been selected for the application of the stipulations of the treaty, not because the title of the King of Siam to other portions of his dominions is less valid, "but because it is the area which affects our interests as a commercial nation." He

goes on to speak of the valley of the Menam, the integrity of which as Siamese territory is guaranteed, as eminently fitted to receive a high industrial development, in which British capital may be advantageously employed. The events of recent history, however, have had a tendency to encourage doubts as to the stability of the Siamese dominion, and therefore to discourage the growth of that confidence which is the first condition of material improvement, "and without in any degree sharing in these doubts or admitting the possibility, within any future with which we have to deal, of the Siamese independence being compromised, Her Majesty's Government could not but feel that there would be an advantage in giving some security to the commercial world that, in regard to the region where the most active development is likely to take place, no further disturbances of territorial ownership are to be apprehended." That represents the sum and substance of British gain in the matter: we have made material concessions in order to secure from France a promise that she will not take something that does not belong to her. The French note, which is addressed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Minister for the Colonies, is a much briefer and, we are bound to say, a much more business-like document than the British one. There is no high falutin nonsense about the integrity of those portions of the Kingdom of Siam not expressly included in the agreement. On the contrary, after stating what is actually guaranteed, M. BERTHELOT goes on to say: "The other portions of the Kingdom of Siam remain outside of this clause of reciprocal neutralisation," which seems an honest and straightforward way of saying that France intends at her convenience to absorb into her Indo-China possessions that portion of Siam lying to the east of the neutralised area, including the rich province of Battembang. This is followed by another declaration in the following terms:—"Each of the two Powers preserves the right of insuring the execution of the treaties existing between it and Siam by suitable ways and means. I need not add, as regards the execution, still incomplete, of the treaty of 3rd October, 1893, that we shall make use of this privilege in the spirit of moderation and equity that has always guided us." This is a direct intimation to Siam that she will be required to fulfil her agreement with France to the letter and that the new agreement between England and France in reference to her territory means absolutely nothing more than it says.

The agreement appears to offer a plentiful crop of difficulties for the future, to contain, in fact, all the elements of a new Egyptian question. It is provided that neither Power will, without the consent of the other, in any case, or under any pretext, advance their armed forces into the region the integrity of which is guaranteed. M. BERTHELOT, however, it will be observed, says that "each of the two Powers preserves the right of insuring the execution of the treaties existing between it and Siam by suitable ways and means." What are we to understand by that if not that the right to use force is reserved? In dealing with semi-civilised states the exhibition, and if necessary the use, of force is the only suitable ways and means of enforcing treaties. Lord SALISBURY in his note has a good deal to say about the industrial growth of the guaranteed region and the employment of British capital. But will there be any industrial growth or any considerable em-

ployment of British capital unless adequate protection is guaranteed? The present ruler of Siam is a tolerably well-intentioned man, but the government is autocratic and we have no guarantee that CHULALONGKORN's successors may not pursue a course which will call for the intervention of the Powers as inevitably as the course of events in Egypt called for it. Taking the most hopeful view of the matter we can hardly anticipate that the Siamese Government will advance in the principles of civilisation at a sufficiently rapid rate, without considerable pressure, to keep pace with the requirements arising from the commercial and industrial development of the country that will follow the extensive employment of foreign capital. The new agreement may perhaps keep matters quiet for a quarter of a century or so, but sooner or later it seems inevitable that it will lead to bickering between France and England, which will end probably in the partition between the two Powers of so much as then remains of Siam.

THE OFFICIAL VOCABULARY OF TELEGRAPH CODE WORDS.

The Official Vocabulary of Code Words, compiled by the Berne International Telegraph Office in accordance with the provisions of the regulations adopted by the Paris International Telegraph Convention, has been received with general condemnation. Its inadequacy and other defects were ably set out in a couple of articles which appeared in the *Chamber of Commerce Journal* last year. The second of these articles concluded as follows:—"We have said nothing of the communications which have been received from colonial and other extra-European bodies protesting against the introduction of the Official Vocabulary. The question as regards extra-European countries is not one of immediate concern. The use of the Official Vocabulary is optional for these countries and we may safely assume that no attempt will be made to impose it upon them until the question is settled in so far as Europe is concerned and until a fair trial has been given to the official publication throughout Europe. We may mention, however, that some influential Continental Chambers which have approved of the principle of the Vocabulary for Europe are entirely opposed to its extension for extra-European purposes." Unfortunately the danger of the Official Vocabulary being imposed upon extra-European countries, at all events in the Far East, is not so remote as our London contemporary imagines. The decisions of the International Telegraph Convention, as we understand, are binding only upon state lines, but there is nothing to prevent the Cable Companies themselves making similar regulations for themselves, and, where there is a monopoly or combination, such regulations would in effect be as binding on the public as if they possessed the force of law. Some months ago the Eastern Extension, Australasia, and China Telegraph Co., Limited, intimated that the use of the Official Vocabulary would probably become obligatory on its system shortly after the next International Telegraph Conference, which is to be held this year. A very able remonstrance against that course being adopted was addressed by the Singapore Chamber of Commerce to the International Telegraph Bureau at Berne, in which the hardship and inconvenience that would be entailed by the compulsory use of the Official Vocabulary were conclusively shown. This representation appears to

have been passed on to the British Post Office, as the International Bureau takes cognisance only of communications from the Governments who are parties to the Convention, and the matter is now therefore in the hands of the Postmaster-General in London.

The reply that the International Convention did not intend to make the use of the Official Vocabulary obligatory as regards extra-European countries would afford no satisfaction, because, if we understand the position aright, there would be nothing to prevent the Cable Companies adopting it by a regulation of their own, as they naturally would do, because it would be a great convenience to them, although a great inconvenience to the public. It is incumbent, therefore, on the Chambers of Commerce in the Far East to support as far as they can the European Chambers in their opposition to the adoption of the Official Vocabulary. The Singapore Chamber communicated its correspondence on the subject to the Shanghai Chamber, which strongly supported the representations made, and presumably the Hongkong Chamber has done the same, but as the committee of the latter body, very inadvisedly, maintains a veil of secrecy over its proceedings we are left in ignorance of what it has done or is doing except in so far as information can occasionally be gathered from correspondence published by the Shanghai Chamber. The Singapore Chamber points out that the Official Vocabulary would, in practice, limit the commercial codes of the colony to 214,000 words, whereas some of those already in use necessitate the application of over 338,000 words, so that the scope of the Berne Vocabulary would be quite inadequate for requirements as found necessary in practice. But the diminished number of words is not the only objection, for in the articles in the *Chamber of Commerce Journal* to which reference has already been made it is shown that there are a number of words in the Official Vocabulary every one of which is the actual telegraphic equivalent of another word or is transmitted by identical signals. A list of these is given, also another list of words every one of which differs from another word by only one signal, either a dot or a dash, the accidental omission or the transmutation into the other of that one signal turning the word into another word which in a code would bear a different meaning. There is a further list of words differing from others by one letter only, while names of common articles, days and months, coins and measures, numbers, places and districts, and firms are introduced, all of which are unsuitable for code purposes. The introduction of the code as it stands would therefore be disastrous.

The general burden of the complaints in England is to impress the necessity of objecting to any Vocabulary whatever and of asking for the unconditional withdrawal of the official publication, instead of limiting the representation to seeking the postponement of its application until satisfactory revision. On this point the *Chamber of Commerce Journal* says:—"The general opinion on the Continent has been ascertained through the Continental Chambers of Commerce and it was discovered early that that opinion was emphatically in favour of the principle of an Official Vocabulary, although the bodies with which communication took place were quite prepared to give their support and to make representations to their respective Governments with the view of securing the postponement of the date of application and the thorough revision of

the Vocabulary. . . . We consider that we cannot, under the circumstances, ask more than revision with any hope of co-operation from European Governments, without whose help this country would be, in all probability, out-voted at the Conference of 1896. The unsatisfactoriness of the experiment may, apart from outside criticism, discredit to a considerable extent the idea of the advisability of an Official Vocabulary. Another point to which the attention of the Conference should be called is the unfairness of the ten-letter limit for code words, which was fixed by the St. Petersburg Convention of 1874 and has been in force ever since. Such common English words as 'irresponsible,' etc., are thereby excluded. . . . The International Conference might not be willing to revert to the seven-syllable limit of the Rome Convention of 1869, but it might at least extend the limit to eleven letters, which would permit of the use of a great many Spanish words which could be employed to advantage and would make it easier to find words less liable to be mistaken for one another on account of their similarity. We are probably not far wrong in presuming that the Berne Office themselves, after their unfortunate experience, would be among the first to give their support to such a proposition." The extension of the letter limit would in itself be a great boon, and we commend the point to the attention of the Chambers of Commerce as one to be urged in connection with the request for the revision of the Official Vocabulary. When the Vocabulary is adopted for European countries we may take it for granted that it will not be long before its use is made obligatory in the Far East, not by direct resolution of the International Convention, but by the regulations of the Cable Companies themselves. It is important to us, therefore, that the Vocabulary should be made as full and as free from defects as possible. As this is an international matter we would suggest that the co-operation of the Manila and the Saigon, Hanoi, and Haiphong Chambers of Commerce be invited, for those places are proportionately as much interested as Hongkong and the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, and it is possible the representations they might make might have some influence in determining the policy to be pursued by their respective Governments at the approaching Convention. The matter is not one that can be settled by England alone.

A RECREATION GROUND IN DANGER.

The industrial development of Hongkong has not proceeded at the same pace as that of Shanghai, but it is nevertheless making substantial progress. The purchase of land at North Point for oil tanks is the latest step and is suggestive of the transformation that may be expected to take place along that charming seaside drive, the Shauiwan Road, during the next few years. At East Point we have the China Sugar Refinery, at Quarry Bay the Taikoo Sugar Refinery, now midway between the two we are to have oil tanks, with casing works, and there are besides one or two minor industries in the same neighbourhood. It is in this part of the colony that some of the best sites for manufactories are to be found and it is probable that within a comparatively brief period along the whole stretch of roadway as far as Quarry Bay we will see extensive reclamations made to obtain deep water frontage and factories of various descriptions

established. The population of the colony is now over two hundred and fifty thousand; that it will be doubled within the next twenty or thirty years there can be little doubt, and present residents here may perhaps live to see it reach a million. Without indulging in speculations as to figures, however, it is certain that the inhabitants of the colony must largely increase, and almost equally certain is it that the land along the Shaukiwan Road will become a great manufacturing district with a tramway communicating with the centre of the town.

In view of the probabilities above suggested—and no one, we think, will say that they are unreasonable—the question of recreation grounds for the increasing population obtrudes itself. We refer more particularly to recreation grounds for Europeans. Chinese requirements will also have to be considered, but the native community do not desire or appreciate facilities for outdoor exercise as the European community do, and that part of the question may perhaps be left over until the demand arises. For the present therefore we confine ourselves to the question of recreation grounds for Europeans and the importance of at once setting aside some convenient site along the Shaukiwan Road for this purpose. In large towns at home enormous sums have been expended in securing breathing spaces, or lungs as they are appropriately termed, for the congested population. In Hongkong such expenditure is at present unnecessary, and ought to be unnecessary for ever, because the Crown possesses ample land for the purpose. It is a simple matter, and ought to be a matter of ordinary precaution in the laying out of a great city, to reserve such land as is likely to be required for recreation, but once the land is parted with it is difficult and expensive to get it back. At the present time alarm is felt, and with good reason, as to the fate of the Polo Ground at Causeway Bay, and a movement is on foot to secure its retention, not for the game of polo exclusively, but as a general recreation ground available for that and other games, the management to be conducted on similar lines to that of the Happy Valley Recreation Ground. It may be asked whether the latter ground is not sufficient for the requirements of the colony. To that the reply must be a most decided negative. One has only to go down to the Happy Valley any afternoon and see the crowds assembled there and the numerous games in progress to satisfy himself on that point. True the Happy Valley ground is capable of extension by taking in the so-called Public Gardens adjoining, as was proposed when the Athletic Club was projected, but the extension which will have to be made sometime, will soon be overtaken by the demand. The filling in of the Happy Valley swamp and its conversion into a recreation ground was one of the greatest boons ever conferred upon the colony and the benefits derived therefrom are out of all proportion to the trifling expenditure the work involved, being in fact inestimable on any mere monetary basis. Like *Oliver Twist*, the colony wants more, and, seeing the Polo Ground in danger of being diverted to building purposes, it is well that a prompt request for its retention as an open space should be made. A year hence and it may be too late.

Causeway Bay, it will be remembered, was reclaimed at considerable cost partly to get rid of the obnoxious foreshore, and partly with a view to its sale for building purposes for the relief of the congestion at that time prevailing in the central districts. Its distance from the town, however, was against

it, and temporary relief from the overcrowding was found in other directions. The ground therefore lay idle and the Polo Club was allowed to make use of it. "Once a use always a custom" is a maxim that we would like to see applied in the present instance. The financial aspect of the case must of course not be overlooked. The reclamation cost a good deal of money and the work would perhaps never have been undertaken had it been foreseen that the land would not sell for so many years, though it must not be forgotten that sanitary considerations also entered into the project, the foreshore there, crowded as it was with small boats, being in a condition that might almost be described as pestiferous. However, the cost is a thing of the past, the money has been paid, and it is now the future that has to be considered. Valuable as the site is likely to become in the near future, it could hardly be turned to better use than that of an open space for the enjoyment and health of the European community. The only point, it seems to us, on which some little hesitancy may be justifiable is as to whether it is the particular piece of ground now in use by the Polo Club that should be retained for recreation purposes or whether some other piece in the immediate neighbourhood would not answer the requirements equally well, the Causeway Bay ground with its sea frontage being left for industrial or residential purposes. Without expressing a decided opinion on the point we must confess that our sympathies are with the retention of the present ground. Neither the Polo Club nor the general public have any legal rights over it, but the fact remains that it is at present in use as a recreation ground, and as a general principle it is inadvisable to hand recreation grounds over to the builder.

EDUCATION IN HONGKONG.

Mr. H. M. MEHTA has had reprinted in pamphlet form a public letter written by him in 1881 on "Education in Hongkong," which has interest at the present time in view of the controversy raised by the Governor's speech at the recent distribution of prizes at Queen's College. His Excellency complained, it will be remembered, that Queen's College had not yet become "the Oxford and Cambridge of China," and, in effect, that the institution had not succeeded in transforming the Chinese of Hongkong into an English-speaking race. Writing fifteen years ago, Mr. MEHTA declared "the political expediency, equity, and morality of educating the Chinese to a high level," a moot question, and that there existed the necessity of vindicating such a policy, if seriously thought of. Having suggested various points for the consideration of the Educational Commission, which had then just been appointed, and given his own views on some of them, based on experience gained in connection with education in India, Mr. MEHTA concludes as follows:—"From the branch schools the next step is the Central School, whatever may be its transfiguration; but once launched therein the question arises how far to advance a student's education, when the lights and shades of the question of the expediency and equity of highly educating the Chinese as viewed from different standpoints are steadily kept before the eyes. If, no matter on what ground this question stands, it be considered a plain matter of duty that the Chinese, though subjects of an alien Government, should be highly educated even beyond the simple requirements of this colony,

then the question whether it is preferable to convert the Central School into an art college or into some technical academy will have to be decided upon. But as it is a question about which it would be simply labouring in the dark to reach the final goal were we to set forth views without ascertaining the views of the Government and of the Education Committee, the advisability of deferring the discussion of it for the nonce can hardly be gainsaid." The Educational Commission presented its report, which was adverse to elevating the Central School (now Queen's College) into a collegiate institution and recommended that the school should be developed on its then basis, a new building and a larger staff of masters being provided. The recommendations of the Commission have been given effect to, but the policy of the Government still seems to be in a very unsettled state, each Governor having different views from his predecessor and praising or disparaging the school according to his personal bias, so that we find ourselves practically at the same point in the discussion that we were at fifteen years ago. This uncertainty is not conducive to educational progress, and it would be well if by a Governmental minute or other official act some leading principles could be laid down as those which should govern educational development in the future.

The problem is not a new one. We have the experience of England before us, and the experience of India, and all that remains to be done is to apply that experience to local circumstances. In England the state has made elementary education compulsory and free. In Hongkong the conditions are hardly ripe for compulsion, nor, perhaps, for making elementary education altogether free, but the Government collects taxes from the Chinese and is morally bound to devote a portion of the revenue to education. There are some Europeans who think the education of Chinese altogether a mistake and a waste of money, so far as the Government is concerned; if the Chinese want education, they say, let them get it themselves. That is not a view the Government could adopt, as it is a recognised principle throughout the empire that the state owes a duty to education. Others, again, say that the efforts of the Government should be devoted solely to the teaching of English, to the exclusion of the Chinese language. Another view is that while an English education is essential for boys who are to become clerks in mercantile offices it is an unnecessary luxury in the case of the ordinary labouring class. On the subject of teaching English and Chinese together in Queen's College the Educational Commission in their report said:—"To secure more time for, and greater efficiency in, the study of English in the Central School, it is essential that great attention should be paid by the scholars to the study of Chinese during the earlier years of their attendance. For this purpose there should be an Upper and a Lower School. In the latter, Chinese should go hand in hand with English, and about the same amount of time should be devoted to each. For passing from the Lower to the Upper School, there should be a stringent examination, and no Chinese boy should be admitted to the Upper School until he is considered by the examiners to have obtained a competent knowledge of his own language. When this has been attained, the translation lessons in the Upper School would prevent any neglect of Chinese which might arise when the ordinary lessons in that language

"ceased to be taught." From this it will be seen that the Commissioners attached importance to the study of Chinese, and it was on this point that the controversy of fifteen years ago chiefly turned. The report was signed by the late Dr. STEWART, Sir E. L. O'MALLEY, then Attorney-General, the late Mr. RYRIE, and the late Mr. F. BULKELEY JOHNSON, while Mr. NG CHOY, another of the Commissioners, expressed dissent in so far as the teaching of Chinese and English concurrently was concerned, holding that every boy before admission to the Central School should be found to possess a competent knowledge of his own language. All the Commissioners, however, were agreed that Chinese boys should have an education in their own language, the only difference being as to whether it should be imparted concurrently with their English education or previously to it. The principle of concurrent English and Chinese education has recently been emphasised by Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, a new rule having been introduced under which no school is to participate in the benefits of the grant-in-aid scheme unless English is taught. In reality, however, we believe His Excellency is opposed to Chinese education *in toto*; we do not recollect that he has said so in so many words, but that is the impression his utterances have conveyed. The idea of eliminating the Chinese language from the colony and making English the every day tongue of the people is very pretty, as a day dream, but it is wholly lacking in practicability. What is wanted for European mercantile offices is a class of native clerks who, while competent as regards their clerical duties, shall also serve as mediums of communication between their European employers and the Chinese customers. A mere English speaking Chinaman who was not fitted by education to associate on equal terms with educated men of his own country would be less useful than a man educated in both languages, as is shown by the inferiority of the Singapore bahah as compared with the Hongkong educated boy. This is a point, too, on which the Indian practice might be looked to for guidance. In India there has been no attempt to suppress the use of the vernacular tongues, but, on the contrary, the native languages are taught concurrently with English in the elementary schools, and it is only when higher education is entered upon that the English language becomes the sole medium of instruction.

CAPTAIN CARMICHAEL AND THE "ON SANG" INQUIRY.

Having referred editorially to Captain CARMICHAEL's absence from the inquiry into the circumstances attending the stranding of the *On Sang*, it seems fair that we should give publicity to his explanation. His letter to a Shanghai contemporary will be found reproduced in another column. He says he was informed by the owners and managers, Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., "that there would be no inquiry into the matter as they did not see any necessity," and he accordingly left for Shanghai. It seems right, however, to point out that Captain CARMICHAEL does not correctly quote the section of the Ordinance to which he refers. The holding of a Court of Inquiry is not dependent on the owner feeling aggrieved. It is in section 14, not section 13, that those words occur, and the connection in which they stand is that if a shipowner feels aggrieved by the refusal of a certificate for his ship he may appeal to a Court of Survey, which is quite a different matter.

Section 13 deals with inquiries as to charges of incompetency or misconduct against masters or officers and as to the loss, abandonment, stranding, etc., of vessels. The charge of personal bias brought by Captain CARMICHAEL against the Harbour Master may pass without further comment than that it was Captain RUMSEY's plain duty to cause an inquiry to be made in such a case as that of the stranding of the *On Sang*. It is open to Captain CARMICHAEL, however, to apply for a rehearing under subsection 7 of section 13, and the Governor has power to direct that the case shall be reheard "either by the Court by whom it was heard in the first instance, or by a Marine Court to be appointed under this section, or by a Judge of the Colonial Court of Admiralty." If after what has occurred Captain CARMICHAEL fails to apply for such a rehearing the inference to be drawn will not be in his favour.

HONGKONG RACE MEETING.

FIRST DAY.

20th February.

The weather is the very foundation of one's enjoyment, and it was very unfortunate that more suitable climatic conditions did not favour the opening day of the annual race meeting held under the auspices of the Hongkong Jockey Club. True, it was fine, as predicted by the infallible weather prophet, but it was fine without a single glimpse of sunshine, and the temperature was much too cold to be appreciated by the ordinary resident; no doubt many of the hundreds of people who assembled at the Happy Valley yesterday devoutly wished for the sun to blaze forth in all its glory and add genial warmth to the surroundings. The attendance in the Grand Stand and enclosure was not so large as it was last year, nor did the scene present such a gay and festive appearance, as owing to the bleak weather the ladies could not don their lightest and airiest costumes, and there was not a single gentleman who shone forth in all the majesty and pomp of a gorgeous check suit. Apparently, however, the weather did not deter the Chinese from swarming to the Valley, as there were just as many as in former years. One of the earliest arrivals at the grand stand was His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, who is the most enthusiastic of sportsmen, and amongst the others present during the day were His Excellency Admiral Buller, His Excellency Major-General Black, and many naval and military officers.

The day's proceedings were in every way highly successful and great credit is due to the many officials who worked so hard to facilitate the lengthy programme being got through promptly and without a single hitch. The heavy rains of the past fortnight had of course considerably handicapped owners in the training of the ponies, and so there was more glorious uncertainty about the sport, which made it perhaps all the more enjoyable; at any rate a more than unusual amount of speculation was indulged in. The course was very heavy indeed, but the times recorded compare favourably with those of the previous year, and the sport was, on the whole, exceedingly good. One particularly striking feature about yesterday's proceedings was the exceptionally large fields which turned out in many of the ten races, and at times the starter had a very trying task in getting the ponies into proper line. The principal race of the day was the Hongkong Derby, which was won by Standard, who was a popular favourite. He ran splendidly and well earned his victory, which was certainly a popular one. This year a decided improvement was made by an additional board showing the names of the competing ponies being exhibited in a prominent part of the ground, while another improvement which deserves mention is the bamboo partition which has been erected under the grand stand to prevent the officials being hampered in their work.

During the day the band of the Rifle Brigade, under the leadership of Mr. W. D.

Peachey, played the following programme of music.—

March.....	"Le Père La Victoire"	Ganne
Overture.....	"Bauer und Dichter"	Suppe
Walse	"Sweet Briar"	Lowthian
Selection.....	"Dandy Dick Whittington"	Caryll
Polka	"See me Dance"	Solomon
March	"Hock Habsburg"	Kral
Selection.....	"Babylonia"	Williams
Walse	"Vision"	Waldteufel
Selection.....	"Gentleman Joe"	Slaughter
Galop	"Violet"	Lamont

The following is the list of officials—

Stewards:—His Excellency Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.; His Excellency Vice-Admiral Alexander Buller, C.B.; His Excellency Major-General Wilson Black, C.B.; Commodore Boyes, R.N.; Colonel Anstey, R.E.; Major The Hon. E. Noel, The Rifle Brigade; Lieut.-Colonel H. T. Faithfull, Hongkong Regiment; Major W. D. Garnett, Botfield, R.A.; the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, the Hon. C. P. Chater; the Hon. T. H. Whitehead; Messrs. A. Coxon, R. M. Gray-M. Grote, C. F. Harton, J. D. Humphreys, T. Jackson, R. Shewan.

Clerks of Scales:—Messrs. R. Shewan and C. F. Harton.

Judge:—The Hon. C. P. Chater.

Starter:—Mr. M. Grote.

Second Starter:—Mr. D. Landale.

Hon. Treasurer:—Mr. J. C. Peter.

Clerk of the Course:—Mr. T. F. Hough.

The WONG-NEI-CHONG STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96, allowed 5 lbs. Half a mile. Mr. Master's Niggler, 10st. 12lbs.

(Owner)	1
Mr. Buxey's Planet, 11st. 4lbs	
(Mr. Crawford)	2
Capt. Loveband's Artexerxes, 11st. 1lb.	
(Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman)	3
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Truce, 10st. 3lbs.	
(Mr. Midwood)	0
Hon. H. L. S. Lee-Dillon's The Beast, 11st. 1lb.	
(Mr. Power)	0
Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Koumiss, 11st. 4lbs.	
(Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vapour, 10st. 12lbs.	
(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Mr. Carruthers' Marathon, 10st. 10lbs.	
(Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. Tithong's Dragon, 10st. 4lbs.	
(Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. Fourman's Scorpion, 11st. 1lb.	
(Mr. Morton Jones)	0

Just as the twelve o'clock gun was fired the horses were at the starting point, but the difficulty—not an unusual one—of getting them to face the right way caused considerable delay, Scorpion being particularly fractious. He first of all scampered away alone round the course, and at the plantation he stopped dead still, but a moment later, he bolted off again and was pulled up just beyond the rock. A fairly good start was eventually made considering the large field, Artexerxes being last. Niggler was the first to show the way, being closely followed by Koumiss, Vapour being third, Truce fourth, and Planet fifth. Rounding the bend Mr. Master was leading, and then Marathon came well up. Entering the straight Planet, Niggler, and Koumiss were together ahead of Dragon, but fifty yards from the winning post Niggler, Planet, and Artexerxes (on the outside) were leading and a grand finish resulted in the horses being placed in this order. Niggler won by only a head, Artexerxes being not half a length from Planet. Time, 1 min. 3 secs.

The ASHLEY CUP; presented by D. R. Sassoon, Esq.; for China ponies; entrance fees to go to the winner; second pony to receive \$50; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. Jay's Ambitious, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Jones)	1
Mr. Dryasdust's Shiney William, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Marshall)	2
Mr. Buxey's Black Velvet, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Crawford)	3
Mr. Chancery's Despatch, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Voltigeur, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Hart Buck)	0

Major Thomas's Morrison, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Midwood)	0
Mr. Buxey's Ambassador, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. J. Peel's The Laird, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Master)	0
Mr. Boyd's Dunmore, 11st. 4lbs.	0
(Mr. Burkill)	0

Mr. Buxey declared best to win.

A good start was made ten minutes late. Despatch (on the rails) led from Voltigeur and Ambassador, and before reaching the post Ambassador came to the front, and as the horses passed the judge's box he was leading by a length, Voltigeur being second, and Despatch third, Shiny William being last. This order was maintained at the bridge, just beyond which Dunmore took the fifth position. At the plantation Black Velvet came up with a good spring and caught Ambassador and Voltigeur, the three keeping abreast for some distance. At length both Mr. Buxey's horses became conspicuous, but before reaching the hill The Laird went forward at a grand pace and headed the others before reaching the rock, Shiny William being second, Black Velvet third, and Ambassador fourth. Just before reaching the straight Ambitious came away and joined the others, all of whom came into the straight for home in a bunch, Black Velvet being slightly behind. Ambitious then took the lead, increased it, and won with comparative ease by four lengths from Shiny William, Black Velvet being a length behind. Time, 2 mins. 10½ secs.

The MAIDEN STAKES; value \$400; second pony to receive \$75; third, \$50; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$10. Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. J. Peel's Bluebell, 11st. 11lb.	1
(Mr. Master)	1
Mr. Buxey's Comet, 11st. 11lb.	2
(Mr. Crawford)	2
Mr. Newman's Telegraph, 10st. 12lb.	3
(Mr. Burkill)	3
Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Kingscote, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Taylor)	0
Lord C. Conyngham's Monte Carlo, 10st. 9lb.	0
(Mr. Radclyffe)	0
Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Koumiss, 11st. 4lbs.	0
(Mr. Midwood)	0
Captain Loveband's Artexerxes, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Heatherbell, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. Fourman's Sepoy, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Jones)	0
Mr. Boyd's Paradox, 10st. 12lb. (Owner)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Visitant II, 10st. 12lb.	0
(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Mr. Newman's Times, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Hunt)	0
Mr. Chancery's Consul, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Marshall)	0
Hon. H. L. S. Lee-Dillon's The Beast, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Power)	0

No fewer than fourteen ponies took part in this race, and an absolutely good start could not be expected. However, there was nothing to complain of. Paradox took a slight lead at the start, and Kingscote, Koumiss, and Sepoy were the most prominent of the others, but they were quickly overtaken by Bluebell and Heatherbell, and Paradox looked like being robbed of the premier position, but he went very well until nearing the hill, when Mr. Peel's couple came right to the front with Comet close up. This order was maintained passing the village and on entering the straight Heatherbell became second. Then Comet came forward with a magnificent spurt, and tried to overtake Bluebell, who had got the lead. The pair ran a grand race home, and the result looked very like a dead heat, but the judge awarded the victory to Mr. Peel's pony. Telegraph, three or four lengths behind, was third, Heatherbell, close up, being placed fourth. Time—1 min. 35½ secs.

The FOOCHEW CUP; value \$200; presented by the Foochow community; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5. Two miles.

Mr. Fourman's Sinner, 11st. 4lbs.	1
(Mr. Burkill)	1
Mr. Boyd's Bluejacket, 10st. 9lb.	2
(Mr. Midwood)	2
Mr. Dryasdust's Cobweb, 11st. 11lb.	3
(Mr. Marshall)	3
Mr. J. Peel's Torchlight, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Master)	0

Lord C. Conyngham's Monte Cristo, 11st. 4lbs.	0
(Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. Tinwo's Diablotin, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Jones)	0

Although Mr. Jones weighed out he did not start. Sinner and Torchlight settled down in front, with Monte Cristo third on the outside. Going round the bend Monte Cristo fell away, and on passing the stand for the first time the ponies were going at a very easy pace. At the rock Cobweb passed Blue Jacket, but did not press forward beyond the third position until coming up the straight for the second time when he got abreast of the leaders. On passing the grand stand Torchlight was leading by a length, with Sinner second, but Sinner drew up immediately afterwards. At the rock Mr. Burkill forced his pony into a capital position, and Bluejacket became third. Then Bluejacket increased his advantage considerably and with a grand bound came up with Sinner, and the pair had a magnificent race home. Sinner, however, obtained a strong lead and won by two lengths; Cobweb a bad third. Time—4 mins. 44½ secs.

The VALLEY STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$200 added; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; for subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96; weight for inches as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. Arnold's Straightforward, 10st. 9lbs.	1
(Mr. Master)	1
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Armistice, 11st. 11lb.	2
(Mr. Midwood)	2
Lieut. Col. O'Gorman's Albany, 10st. 9lbs.	3
(Mr. Taylor)	3
Major Moore's Backsheesh, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Paley)	0
Mr. Childwick's Bezique, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Radclyffe)	0
Mr. Fourman's Sinbad, 10st. 9lbs.	0
(Mr. Burkill)	0
Mr. Carruthers' Lightheart, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Crawford)	0
Dr. Noble's Presto, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. Leon's Flaneur, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Brooke)	0
Mr. Tilbro's Sleepy Jim, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Jones)	0
Mr. Jay's Herold, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hunt)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Variation, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Mr. Quintet's Cocktail, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Marshall)	0
Mr. Medico's M.D., 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Thomas)	0
Mr. Tierce's Bantam, 10st. 6lbs.	0
(Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. Ray's Snowdrift, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Gedge)	0

The starter did not have very much trouble with this exceptionally large field. Sinbad was the first to show the way, but just before getting to the straight Straightforward came away with a long lead and won very easily indeed. Armistice was second, and Albany third. Time—1 min. 35 secs. Mr. Brooke, on Flaneur, was thrown in the straight, but fortunately he escaped injury.

The HONGKONG DERBY; a sweepstakes of \$20 each with \$1,000 added (half forfeit if declared on or before day of closing entries); for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry (Saturday, 11th January, 1896); first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a half.

Mr. Newman's Standard, 11st. 11lbs.	1
(Mr. Burkill)	1
Mr. Fourman's Scandal, 11st. 4lbs.	2
(Mr. M. Jones)	2
Mr. Buxey's Surprise, 10st. 12lbs.	3
(Mr. Thomas)	3
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Speedwell, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Midwood)	0
Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Kingscote, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Radclyffe)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Bellringer, 11st. 4lbs.	0
(Mr. Master)	0
Mr. Boyd's Paradox, 10st. 12lbs. (Owner)	0
Mr. Buxey's Mystery, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Crawford)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vagabond, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Captain Loveband's Xerxes, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman)	0
Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Greyleg, 11st. 11lbs.	0
(Mr. Taylor)	0

Mr. Newman's Times, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Capt. Hunt)	0
Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Son of a Gun, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Marshall)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Visitant II, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Bellman, 10st. 9lbs.	0
(Mr. Cruickshank)	0

There was considerable excitement amongst the spectators prior to the commencement of this race, the most important event of the day's meeting, and the speculation was very keen. The exceedingly large field rendered it very difficult to judge which pony was most likely to win, and consequently four or five ponies were spotted out as favourites, but Bellringer, Standard, and Surprise found the most supporters as they had given a very good account of themselves during the training. A good start was obtained and Speedwell was the first away, being closely followed by Times, who succeeded in getting a very strong lead on going up the hill, Paradox having now come up second. Times continued to make the running, and passing the grand stand for the first time he and Paradox were a long way ahead of the others, of whom Bellringer and Speedwell were the most prominent, being closely followed by Standard and Vagabond. At the plantation Standard came well up and he and Bellringer were now making the running. Times having fallen back to third position. In the straight Standard shot to the front, increased the substantial lead he had already gained, and won by eight lengths. Scandal, who had overtaken the others in the straight, being second, with Surprise running a neck and neck race for second honours. Bellman was fourth and Vagabond fifth. Time—3 mins. 22 secs. The winning jockey was loudly cheered on returning to the weighing room, and he was hoisted shoulder high.

The LUSITANO CUP; presented by the members of the Club Lusitano; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra, subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96, allowed 7 lbs.; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Boyd's Dunblane, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Burkill)	1
Mr. J. Peel's Tocsin, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Master)	2
Mr. Dryasdust's Kindar, 10st. 9lbs.	3
(Mr. Taylor)	3
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Satrap, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Midwood)	0
Mr. Graham's Baccarat, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vicar, 11st. 4lbs.	0
(Mr. Hart Buck)	0

The first to get away was Baccarat, who was closely pursued by Kindar, and at the bend the other ponies were in a bunch. In the straight Baccarat and Kindar were still in front, with Dunblane in close attendance. Passing the grand stand Baccarat fell into second place, and Kindar had obtained a creditable lead when passing the bridge. At the plantation Tocsin came up in beautiful style, and quickly overtook Baccarat, and at the hill he was almost level with Kindar. However, Kindar did not hold the lead for very long after passing the rock, as Dunblane spurted forward and on entering the straight had obtained a lead of a length, which he increased in a few strides and won by seven or eight lengths, Tocsin being second, Kindar third, and Vicar last. Time, 2 mins. 47½ secs.

The HONGKONG CLUB CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$15. One mile and a half.

Mr. J. Peel's Pineapple, 10st. 9lbs.	1
(Mr. Master)	1
Mr. Buxey's Mayberry, 10st. 12lbs.	2
(Mr. Crawford)	2
Mr. Newman's Komatsu, 11st. 11lb.	3
(Mr. Burkill)	3
Mr. Power and Lord C. Conyngham's Borderer, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. Boyd's Dunboyne, 11st. 4lbs.	0
(Owner)	0
Capt. Loveband's Xerxes, 10st. 12lbs.	0
(Lieut. Col. The O'Gorman)	0
Mr. Fourman's Sepoy, 11st. 11lb.	0
(Mr. Jones)	0

Pineapple got away first to a good start, Mayberry and Sepoy being in close attendance.

At the hill Borderer took the lead from Pineapple and Mayberry, Komatsu being fourth, and Xerxes fifth. Passing the stand the ponies were in the following order—Borderer first, Pineapple second, Sepoy third, Xerxes fourth, Komatsu, close up, fifth, Mayberry and Dunboyne last. Turning the bend Mr. Master tried hard to steer his pony past Borderer, and Komatsu came alongside Sepoy. At the hill Mr. Master's efforts were rewarded, as he passed Borderer, and then Mayberry came beautifully along into second place and challenged Pineapple, who however increased his lead, while Komatsu obtained third position, Sepoy being in close attendance. In the straight Pineapple continued to hold a big advantage, and although he was hotly pursued by Mayberry, who rushed up near the rail, he finished first, a length being the distance between him and Mr. Buxey's pony. Komatsu was a long way behind, third. Time—3 mins. 22½ secs.

The COMPADORS' CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96; weight for inches as per scale; winner of Valley Stakes 5 lbs. extra; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. Fourman's Sinbad, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Burkill)	1
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Burnside, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Midwood)	2
Mr. P. Paul's Leonidas, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Jones)	3
Mr. Power's Ballysloe, 10st. 9lbs.	(Owner)	0
Mr. Medico's Microbe, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Thomas)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Canary, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Master)	0
Mr. Carruthers' Pundra, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. George's Howlet, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Fullerton)	0
Mr. Humphreys' Vehicle Ordinance, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Gedge)	0
Mr. Buxey's Lighthouse, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Crawford)	0
Mr. Burder's Sensation, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. Charles' Piquet, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. Quintet's Bamboo, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Marshall)	0

A capital start was made with very little delay, Pundra being the first to assume the lead, with Sinbad second, Leonidas third, and Burnside fourth. At the plantation the last named raced up into third place, and at the rock he had passed Pundra, who fell away last, and passing the village Burnside and Sinbad ran a very stiff race, with Leonidas third, and Lighthouse fourth on the outside. In the straight whips were freely used, and Sinbad, drawing out, won by several lengths, Burnside being second about a length from Leonidas. Lighthouse was fourth, and the rest completely out of the race. Time, 2mins. 14secs.

The ENCOURAGEMENT STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 with \$100 added; for subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; previous winners excluded weight for inches as per scale. Once round.

Mr. Tilbro's Sleepy Jim, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Jones)	1
Mr. Darius' Spartan, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Master)	2
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Nesting, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Midwood)	3
Mr. Quintet's Cocktail, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Marshall)	0
Mr. Fourman's Sailor, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Burkill)	0
Mr. Carruthers' Marathon, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Radclyffe)	0
Hon. H. L. S. Lee-Dillon's Milk Punch, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Power)	0
Mr. Alexander's Blue Green, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Taylor)	0
Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman's Albany, 10st. 9lbs.	(Owner)	0
Mr. Childwick's Bezique, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Mr. Inglis' Mockery, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. Tierce's Bantam, 10st. 6lbs.	(Mr. Cruickshank)	0
General Black's Chance, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Sterling)	0
Mr. Roy's Snowdrift, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Gedge)	0

This race, the last on the day's programme, proved a complete upset of calculations. Sleepy Jim was the first to demonstrate that he was not sleepy, for he went away at the start, Bantam being a short distance behind on the rails, Sensation being third, Marathon fourth, and Vehicle Ordinance fifth. Sensation took the second place on going up the hill, and Bantam third, while Sleepy Jim dropped back into third position at the village. Then Spartan came to the front and obtained a very good lead before the straight was entered. In the straight, however, Sleepy Jim shook off his temporary somnolence and dashed to the front with considerable vigour and overtook Spartan who was now hotly pressed by Nesting. Sleepy Jim succeeded in maintaining the lead and a good race resulted in his favour by half a length, Nesting being only three quarters away from Spartan; Blue Green was fourth. Time—2mins. 1sec.

SECOND DAY.—Friday, 21st February.

The morning opened cheerless enough, and gave promise of a poor day's racing. Rain fell at daylight, a cold searching wind blew, heavy clouds hung about the sky, and altogether, the outlook was very depressing indeed. Fortunately rain did not fall after eight o'clock, but the whole of the day was very gloomy, and the chilly air, which reminded one of a steeplechase season in England, certainly offered no inducement to people to go and stand on the racecourse at Happy Valley for over five hours and risk a severe cold. But the day's events were very important, and although when racing commenced there were very few people on the ground the attendance materially increased after tiffin, but the crowd in the enclosure was not so large as on the opening day. The sport was undoubtedly full of interest, which was maintained throughout the long programme; and if the weather was cold the enthusiasm displayed during the progress of the racing was of the warmest description and showed no signs of flagging as the day wore on. As on the first day, there were again some exceedingly large fields, and it is questionable whether there has ever before been such a succession of big fields as at this meeting, a condition of things which is one proof of the happy prosperity of the colony. The racing opened with the Scurry Stakes, and nine ponies took part in the race, which was won by Mr. Buxey's Comet. In the next race, the Exchange Plate, Mr. Master was unfortunate in meeting with an accident, as he certainly had an easy win in view when Bellman threw him into the ditch, and so the victory fell to Sinner. Mr. Master, however, succeeded in steering Straightforward to victory in the chief event of the day—the German Cup—for which there were no fewer than eighteen runners. The adjournment for tiffin was taken after this race, and then followed the contest for the Professional Cup, which was won in fine style by Mayberry. The whole of the remaining events, particularly the Navy Cup, furnished plenty of excitement, and in the race for the Gymkhana Stakes, the last item on the programme, there were exactly as many runners as in the race for the German Cup. Armistice well deserved his victory, as he came out in grand style in the straight and shot home with a good deal of ground to the good. During the day the band of the Hongkong Regiment played selections of music between the races.

The SCURRY STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$10 each; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; second pony to receive \$50; weight for inches as per scale; winners 7lbs. extra. One mile.

Mr. Buxey's Comet, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Crawford)	1
Mr. J. Peel's Heatherbell, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Master)	2
Mr. Newman's Telegraph, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Burkill)	3
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Speedwell, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Midwood)	0
Mr. Boyd's Paradox, 11st. (Mr. Marshall)		0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Visitant II, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Greyleg	(Mr. Taylor)	0

Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Koumiss, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Thomas) 0
Mr. Fourman's Sepoy, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Jones) 0
Owing to several breaks away the start was delayed until ten minutes after time. A good start was eventually made and Paradox took the lead and was first on passing the grand stand, with Speedwell second, and Comet third. This order was maintained until the bridge was reached, when Telegraph came up to second place, and so they ran up the hill, but passing the rock Comet took first place, with Paradox half a length behind, with Speedwell and Paradox in close attendance. Then Heatherbell came forward with a beautiful bound, at which time Comet was leading by a length and a half. At the bend, however, Heatherbell came up with Comet, and the pair had a fine race up the straight, with Telegraph coming smartly up on the outside. Comet, however, went away from Heatherbell half a furlong from home and won by a length; two lengths between second and third; Visitant II. was fourth, and Sepoy fifth. Time—2 mins. 15 secs.

The EXCHANGE PLATE; presented by the Bankers and Exchange Brokers of Hongkong; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; *bona fide* griffins on date of entry allowed 5lbs.; winners at this meeting 5lbs. extra; entrance \$10. One mile and three-quarters.

Mr. Fourman's Sinner, 11st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Burkill)	1
Mr. J. Peel's Torchlight, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Cruickshank)	2
Mr. Power and Lord C. Conyngham's Borderer, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Taylor)	3
Mr. Boyd's Bluejacket, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Midwood)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Bellman, 10st. 5lbs.	(Mr. Master)	0

There was no delay at the start, and Bluejacket was the first to get away, the others being in a bunch. At the bridge Borderer went into second place and Bellman third, with the other two close behind. At the plantation Bluejacket had a length's lead from Borderer, who, however, overtook Mr. Boyd's pony, and turning the bend the ponies got into a bunch. Passing the stand for the first time Bluejacket was leading by a length, but at the bridge Bellman came out and gained a lead of four lengths, with Sinner second. At the plantation Bluejacket fell back beaten, and Bellman considerably increased his lead on going up the hill, Sinner being second, and Borderer third. The last named horse came up abreast of Sinner before reaching the straight, and in the straight Bellman, who had a decided lead and looked like winning easily, swerved on the course and threw Mr. Master into the ditch. Fortunately the jockey was not hurt. Sinner now had the race to himself, and won easily by six lengths. Time, 4mins. 7½secs.

The GARRISON CUP; presented by the Officers of the Garrison; second pony to receive \$75; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; winners 7 lbs. extra; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Buxey's Surprise, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Crawford)	1
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vagabond, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Hart Buck)	2
Mr. Fourman's Scandal, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Jones)	3
Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Son of a Gun, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Taylor)	0
Lord C. Conyngham's Monte Carlo, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Radclyffe)	0
Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Kingscote, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Paley)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Bellringer, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Master)	0
Hon. H. L. S. Lee-Dillon's The Beast, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Power)	0
Capt. Loveband's Xerxes, 10st. 12lbs.	(Lieut. Col. The O'Gorman)	0

The ponies showed no trouble at the post, and Kingscote was the first to get away to a good start, being attended by Vagabond and Monte Carlo. Kingscote at the bend was passed by Monte Carlo, but the former came up again, but was soon overtaken by Surprise, who was the first to pass the judge's box in the initial lap. Vagabond and Scandal gained ground at the plantation, but Surprise managed to hold his own, and coming down the hill he and Scandal raced merrily together, while Vaga-

bond was being rapidly overhauled by Bellringer. On entering the straight Surprise had the best of Scandal and was leading by two lengths, while Vagabond and Bellringer were coming up at a lively pace. Surprise, however, had gained a big advantage and he won easily. The race between Scandal and Vagabond for second position was very exciting, the latter getting the better of his opponent by only a neck. Bellringer was fourth. Time—2 mins. 52 secs.

The GERMAN CUP; presented by members of the German Club; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Arnold's Straightforward, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Master)	1
Mr. Fourman's Sinbad, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Burkill)	2
Mr. Tierce's Bantam, 10st. 6lbs.	(Mr. Cruickshank)	3
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Armistice, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Midwood)	0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Burnside, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Thomas)	0
Mr. R. Alexander's Blue Green, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. Burder's Sensation, 11st. 4lbs.	(Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman)	0
Mr. George's Howlet, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Fullerton)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Variation, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Mr. P. Paul's Leonidas, 11st. (Mr. Marshall)		0
Mr. Buxey's Lighthouse, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Crawford)	0
Mr. Roy's Snowdrift, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Gedge)		0
Mr. Inglis' Mockery, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. Charles' Piquet, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Radclyffe)	0
Mr. Jay's Herold, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Hunt)	0
Mr. Tilbro's Sleepy Jim, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Jones)	0
Mr. Quintet's Bamboo, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Paley)		0
Mr. Medico's Microbe, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Sterling)	0

The starter had to arrange the eighteen ponies in a somewhat mixed manner, and a good start could not be expected under the circumstances. Howlet was the first to show the way, the nearest to him being Sinbad. On passing the stand, however, Sinbad was leading by three lengths, the others following in a procession. At the bridge Armistice came to the front but he was quickly overhauled by Straightforward, who spurred into first position, but lost it immediately afterwards, as Armistice again came away. Mr. Arnold's pony, however, rallied and raced along in splendid style and soon took the lead once more, and at the rock he had obtained a substantial advantage from Sinbad, while Armistice dropped into the rear. Sinbad and Straightforward now had the race to themselves, and the latter succeeded in passing the judge's eye half a length in front of Sinbad. Bantam was a long way behind, third. Time—mins. 47½ secs.

The PROFESSIONAL CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners of one race at this meeting 7 lbs. extra; of two or more races, 10 lbs. extra; previous non-starters to carry 12st.; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Buxey's Mayberry, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Crawford)	1
Mr. Jay's Ambitious, 11st. 8lbs.	(Mr. Jones)	2
Mr. Dryasdust's Shiney William, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Marshall)	3
Mr. Boyd's Dunmore, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Midwood)	0
Mr. Newman's Komatsu, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Burkill)	0
Mr. Power and Lord C. Conyngham's Borderer, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Power)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Tocsin, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Master)	0

Shiney William led from Komatsu and Dunmore, with Mayberry last. The order going past the stand was—Shiney William first, Dunmore second, Komatsu third, then followed Tocsin, Mayberry, Ambitious, and Borderer,

the last named being a long way behind. On passing the bridge Shiney William was well ahead of Dunmore and Komatsu, but at the plantation Tocsin and Mayberry came into a very prominent position, and Borderer also joined the others. Shiney William maintained the lead until reaching the black rock, when Tocsin came up with him and the pair raced abreast down the hill, Ambitious and Mayberry being the next pair. Coming into the straight Mayberry came grandly forward and passing the other ponies ran out a winner by three lengths; Ambitious was a length ahead of Shiney William, Tocsin being fourth, and Borderer last. Time—2 mins. 50½ secs.

The JOCKEY CUP; value \$200; second pony to receive \$50; for subscription ponies of any season, winners excluded; to be ridden by jockeys who have never had a winning mount previous to this meeting in Hongkong or China; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Burnside, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Radclyffe)	1
General Black's Chance, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Sterling)	2
Lieut. Col. The O'Gorman's Albany, 10st. 9lbs.	(Owner)	3
Dr. Noble's Presto, 10st. 12lbs.	(Owner)	0
Mr. Leon's Flaneur, 10st. 10lbs.	(Mr. Brooke)	0
Major Moore's Backsheesh, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Truce, 10st. 8lbs.	(Mr. Power)	0
Mr. Medico's M.D., 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hunt)		0

Albany and Chance were the first prominent pair, while M.D. was in close attendance, and Burnside fourth, and Truce last. At the rock Burnside came ahead of them all, M.D. and Chance being dangerously at hand, the former on the inside, and the latter on the outside, while Flaneur was a long way in the rear on reaching the straight. A little over a furlong from home Burnside took a decided lead, Chance and Albany being the nearest pair, and Mr. Derick-Hunter's pony passed the post a length in front of Chance and Albany, who seemed like running a dead heat for second position. However, General Black's pony just managed to get in front, Backsheesh being fourth. Time 2 mins. 21 secs.

The FLYAWAY STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; subscription ponies of any season non-winners allowed 7lbs.; subscription ponies of any season winners allowed 3lbs.; previous winners at this meeting 7lbs. extra. Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. Dryasdust's Kindar, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Burkill)	1
Mr. J. Peel's The Laird, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Master)	2
Major Thomas's Morrison, 10st. 9lbs.	(Owner)	3
Mr. Buxey's Black Velvet, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Midwood)	0
Messrs. Alexander and Taylor's Koumiss, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. Buxey's Planet, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Crawford)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Voltigeur, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vapour 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Jones)	0
Capt. Loveband's Artexerxes, 11st. 1lb.	(Lieut. Col. the O'Gorman)	0

Mr. Grote got the ponies away to a good start, Kindar and The Laird showing the way. At the plantation Black Velvet came up well and at the hill he took first place, Kindar being second, and Morrison third. Black Velvet had the inside position at the foot of the hill, when Planet overtook Morrison and then came abreast of The Laird. However, Planet soon fell back and then Morrison came out in fine style and challenged Black Velvet. Kindar continued to have the lead and won by about a length and a half from The Laird, Morrison being third, and Black Velvet fourth. Time—1 min. 36 1-5 secs.

The TAI YEUK FONG CUP; value \$200; presented by J. D. Humphreys, Esq.; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies bona fide griffins on date of entry; subscription griffins weight for inches as per scale, other

griffins 7lbs. extra; previous winners 7lbs. extra; entrance \$10. One mile and a half.

Mr. J. Peel's Heatherbell, 11st. 8lbs.	(Mr. Master)	1
Mr. Newman's Telegraph, 11st. 5lbs.	(Mr. Burkill)	2
Mr. Fourman's Sepoy, 11st. 8lbs. (Mr. Jones)		3
Lord C. Conyngham's Monte Carlo, 11st. 2lbs.	(Mr. Radclyffe)	0
Mr. Chancery's Consul, 11st. 8lbs. (Mr. Taylor)		0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Nesting, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Midwood)	0
Mr. Newman's Times, 11st. 8lbs. (Mr. Hunt)		0

Monte Carlo led up to the straight, when Consul came up, Telegraph and Nesting being near at hand, and passing the stand Consul was still leading, but at the bridge Heatherbell took the lead, followed closely by Times, while Telegraph dropped slightly back. At the hill Mr. Peel's pony had gained a lead of three lengths, and the order was rather straggling. At the village the ponies got closer together, and Telegraph again came into second place, and Sepoy was next in order. The riders of both Telegraph and Sepoy used their whips, but Heatherbell could not be caught, and he won by about two lengths. Telegraph was about a neck ahead of Sepoy. Time—3 mins. 31½ secs.

The NAVY CUP; presented by Officers of H.M. fleet; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at this meeting of one race 5 lbs. extra; of two races 7 lbs. extra; and of three or more races 10 lbs. extra; non-starters at this meeting excluded; entrance \$10. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Surprise, 11st. 3lbs.	(Mr. Crawford)	1
Mr. Peel's Pineapple, 11st.	(Mr. Master)	2
Mr. Boyd's Dunblane, 11st. 6lbs. (Mr. Burkill)		3
Mr. Fourman's Scandal, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Jones)		0
Mr. Dryasdust's Cobweb, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Marshall)	0
Mr. Boyd's Dunboyne, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Taylor)		0
Mr. Buxey's Mayberry, 11st. 3lbs.	(Mr. Midwood)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vicar, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vagabond, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Satrap, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Radclyffe)	0
Lord C. Conyngham's Monte Cristo, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Power)	0

Soon after the start Cobweb got the lead, but he did not retain it long, as Vicar overhauled him, and Pineapple became third, the remainder being some distance behind. At the village, however, the ponies closed together and Dunblane now became third with Scandal very near him. At the bridge Dunblane went second, while Pineapple was fourth and Scandal fifth. At the hill Pineapple overtook Dunblane, and the Vicar now appeared to be quite out of the race. Scandal got the better of Dunblane at the village, and entered the straight ahead of Pineapple, but Surprise now came along with a good sweep, and a very fine race ensued between him and Pineapple, who had again passed Scandal, while Dunblane came out with a particularly good spurt. The finish was an exceedingly good one, Surprise getting home only about a head in front, Dunblane being third, about two lengths behind Pineapple. Time—3 mins. 27½ secs.

The GYMKHANA STAKES; value \$150, presented by the Gymkhana Committee, added to a sweepstakes of \$5 each; for subscription ponies of any season; winners and previous non-starters excluded; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale. One mile.

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Armistice, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Midwood)	1
Mr. Alexander's Blue Green, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Taylor)	2
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Variation, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Hart Buck)	3
Mr. Jay's Herold, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Master)		0
Mr. Tierce's Bantam, 10st. 7lbs.	(Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. Buxey's Lighthouse, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Crawford)	0
Dr. Noble's Presto, 10st. 12lbs.	(Owner)	0
Mr. Medico's M.D., 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Thomas)		0
Mr. George's Howlet, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Fullerton)	0

Mr. Inglis' Mockery, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Gresson) 0
Mr. Quintet's Cocktail, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Marshall) 0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Nesting, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Burkill) 0
Mr. Burder's Sensation, 11st. 4 lbs.	(Lieut. Col. The O'Gorman) 0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vehicle Ordinance, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Radclyffe) 0
Mr. Paul's Leonidas, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Jones) 0
General Black's Chance, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Sterling) 0
Mr. Darius' Spartan, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Hunt) 0
Mr. Childwick's Bezique, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Gedge) 0

It was almost dark when the ponies were brought into a line, as in consequence of the exceptionally large field there was some delay, but a good start was eventually made, and when the grand stand was reached Variation led by two lengths, Sensation being nearest to him. After passing the bend Mr. M. Jones was thrown from his pony, which bolted and unfortunately dislocated its off shoulder. Mr. Jones was happily uninjured. At the hill M.D. went into first position, followed by Bantam, but at the village Armistice came out from the bunch and was joined by Blue Green and Variation, all of whom ran a good race home. Armistice, however, increased his lead and won by three lengths. Blue Green beat Variation on the post for second place. Time—2 mins. 16½ secs.

THIRD DAY.

22nd February.

Up to eleven o'clock on Saturday morning the outlook was decidedly not very promising, as rain had fallen heavily during the night and it still continued during most of the morning. However, towards noon the sky became brighter, and although there was a very scant attendance when racing was started the public assembled in the enclosure in large numbers just before tiffin time, and they were well rewarded with a most interesting day's racing. The course was naturally in a very wretched state, and there were many pools of water, while the rain had rendered the enclosure so sloppy with mud that straw had to be strewn on the ground for the convenience of the spectators. It was unfortunate that similar treatment could not be tendered to the course, as both horses and riders were after each race completely bespattered with mud, and so thick was the coating of the semi-liquid dirt on the jockeys that some of them were almost beyond recognition. The mud covered their silk jackets, and played serious pranks with their faces, while not a few of the riders must have swallowed large chunks of the course, to say nothing of the large quantity that entered their ears and eyes. In many cases jockeys returned to the enclosure three or four pounds heavier than they left it. Of course the treacle-like condition of the ground interfered with fast times being recorded, but this fact did not in the least damp the ardour and enthusiasm of the spectators, who seemed rather to enjoy the ugly effect the mud had upon the jockeys and horses. The event in which most interest was centred was the Ladies' Purse, and a large number of ladies collected in the grand stand prior to the start of this race, which fell to Mr. Jay's Ambitious, which was steered to victory by Mr. Morton Jones. At the conclusion of the race the customary adjournment was made to the grand stand, where Mr. Jones was presented with his well earned prize by Miss Black, who, on behalf of the ladies of Hongkong, made a very appropriate speech, to which Mr. Jones replied, and then handed Miss Black a handsome bouquet. Among those present at the interesting ceremony were his Excellency the Governor, Admiral Buller, Major-General Black, and Commodore Boyes, and at the conclusion hearty cheers were given for Miss Black and for the donors of the purse. The Championship Stakes was the ninth on the programme and brought out ten starters. There was much speculation on the event, and the progress of the race was watched with keen interest. Standard, who had been reported lame, turned out and had evidently been specially reserved for this event, as he ran in splendid style and won rather easily. It only remains now for us

to heartily congratulate the whole of the officials, especially Mr. T. F. Hough, the indefatigable Clerk of the Course, who worked so zealously during the meeting, which, notwithstanding the rather depressing influences in the matter of the weather, passed off without a single hitch of any kind. Great praise, too, is due to the police, under Chief Inspector Corcoran and Inspectors Duncan and Witchell, who greatly enhanced the enjoyment of the public by the careful preparations they made for controlling the traffic in the streets and on the ground. During Saturday the Centurion band played pleasing selections of music, one of them being "See the Conquering hero comes," which was appropriately given as Mr. Jones marched up to the grand stand to receive his prize. To-day is the "off" day and as will be seen a very good programme has been arranged, so that the public will no doubt turn out in considerable numbers.

The GRAND STAND STAKES; value \$200; second pony to receive \$50; third, \$25; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; winners of one race 5 lbs. extra; of two races 7 lbs. extra; and of three or more races 9 lbs. extra; subscription griffins allowed 5 lbs.; entrance \$5. Once round.

Mr. Arnold's Straightforward, 11st. 11lbs.	(Mr. Midwood) 1
Mr. Newman's Times, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Burkill) 2
Mr. J. Peel's Bluebell, 11st. 6lbs.	(Mr. Master) +
Mr. Buxey's Mystery, 11st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Crawford) +
Mr. J. Peel's Heatherbell, 11st. 6lbs.	(Mr. Cruickshank) 0
Mr. Chancery's Consul, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Sterling) 0
Lord C. Conyngham's Monte Carlo, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Radclyffe) 0
Mr. Boyd's Paradox, 11st.	(Mr. Marshall) 0
Mr. Fourman's Sepoy, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Jones) 0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vagabond,	(Mr. Hart Buck) 0

After three breaks away the ponies went off to a good start, Bluebell being first with the others in a bunch close behind. At the bridge Paradox took second place, and Straightforward came out on the outside and soon got abreast of Paradox. There was no change in the order until the hill was reached, when Paradox went second and Heatherbell also became prominent. At the village Bluebell and Straightforward led by a length and a half, but in the straight Mr. Arnold's pony took a long lead, with Bluebell, Mystery, Paradox, and Times (who had come away at the bend) following in hot pursuit. They failed to reach Straightforward, who won by four lengths. A very exciting race ensued between Times, Bluebell, and Mystery for second place, but Mr. Newman's pony just managed to get in front by a head, while Bluebell and Mystery ran a dead heat for third place. Time—2 mins. 6 secs.

The CIVIL SERVICE PURSE; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners 7 lbs. extra; penalties accumulative; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. J. Peel's Canary, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Master) 1
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Variation, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Hart Buck) 2
Mr. Buxey's Lighthouse, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Crawford) 3
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Armistice, 11st. 8lbs.	(Mr. Midwood) 0
Mr. Burder's Sensation, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Thomas) 0
Mr. Childwick's Bezique, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Radclyffe) 0
Mr. R. Alexander's Blue Green, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Taylor) 0
Major-General Black's Chance, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Sterling) 0
Mr. Tilbro's Sleepy Jim, 11st. 5lbs.	(Mr. Jones) 0

The ponies were in a bunch on passing the grand stand for the first time. Sleepy Jim having a slight lead, while at the bend Variation got abreast of him. Armistice and Bezique were the next pair to come out, with Canary fourth. At the hill Lighthouse passed Armistice and Bezique, and now Sleepy Jim fell into the rear, while Canary shot rapidly to the front, and in the straight he obtained a good lead,

with Lighthouse and Variation coming well along. However Canary galloped in grand style and passed the winning post two lengths to the good, Variation being placed second, Lighthouse third, and Sleepy Jim fourth. Time—2 mins. 22½ secs.

The CHALLENGE CUP; value 100 guineas; for China ponies; to be won two years consecutively by a pony or ponies the *bona fide* property of the same owner; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; and third, 10 per cent. of entrance fees; weight for inches as per scale; entrance (forced) \$5, but optional to subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96. One mile and three-quarters.

Mr. Peel's Pineapple, 10st. 9lbs.	(Mr. Master) 1
Mr. Buxey's Mayberry, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Crawford) 2
Mr. Dryasdust's Cobweb, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Burkill) 3
Mr. Boyd's Dunboyne, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Taylor) 0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Speedwell, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Midwood) 0
Mr. Power and Lord C. Conyngham's Borderer, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Hart Buck) 0

Pineapple and Cobweb led from Dunboyne and Speedwell, who were abreast, but going up the hill all the ponies with the exception of Borderer, who was some distance behind, were together. At the village Mayberry lost ground slightly, but he recovered at the bend, and on entering the straight the five horses were almost abreast. On passing the grand stand for the first time Pineapple, Cobweb, and Mayberry were close together, the first named having a slight lead. At the bridge Borderer passed Dunboyne and Speedwell and got well up to the first three. On going up the hill the ponies were in a line, Pineapple being first, Mayberry second, Cobweb third, Borderer fourth, Dunboyne fifth, and Speedwell last. On reaching the bend Mayberry came up to Pineapple, but in the straight the latter obtained a slight lead, and a fine race home ensued between this pair, Mr. Master getting past the post half a length in front. Cobweb was a bad third, Borderer fourth, and the other two some distance behind last. Time—4 mins. 14½ secs.

The LADIES' PURSE; for all China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners at this meeting other than subscription griffins 7 lbs. extra, previous non-starters at this meeting 12 lbs. extra; entrance \$5. Seven furlongs.

Mr. Jay's Ambitious, 11st. 8lbs.	(Mr. Jones) 1
Mr. Dryasdust's Kindar, 11st. 2lbs.	(Mr. Marshall) 2
Mr. J. Peel's The Laird, 11st. 1lb.	(Mr. Master) 3
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Satrap, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Midwood) 0
Major Thomas's Morrison, 10st. 12lbs.	(Owner) 0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Visitant II, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Hart Buck) 0
Mr. Boyd's Dunmore, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Taylor) 0
Mr. Buxey's Ambassador, 10st. 12lbs.	(Mr. Gresson) 0
Mr. J. Peel's Tocsin, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Cruickshank) 0
Mr. Buxey's Planet, 11st. 4lbs.	(Mr. Crawford) 0

The ten starters were out in good time, and after a short delay at the post Kindar, The Laird, and Tocsin were the first away to a good start, and at the plantation Ambitious pushed to the front and came up with the leaders. Kindar went ahead at the hill, and there was no alteration in the order until the village was reached, when The Laird took second place just in front of Ambitious, and so they ran to the bend, where Ambitious hotly pressed Kindar. In the straight Mr. Jay's pony whipped past Kindar, and maintaining the lead won by three quarters of a length, Kindar being second, The Laird third, and Dunblame fourth some distance away. Time—2 mins. ½ sec.

The HONGKONG STAKES; a forced entry of \$5 for all subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96, entered at the meeting; first pony to receive 70 per cent. of the entrance fees with \$100 added; second, 30 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale; winner of the German and/or Tai Yeuk Fong Cups 10 lbs. extra,

winners of any other races 5 lbs. One mile and a half.	
Mr. Fourman's Sinbad, 11st. (Mr. Burkill)	1
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Variation, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hart Buck)	2
Mr. J. Peel's Canary, 11st. (Mr. Master)	3
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Nesting, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Midwood)	0
Hon. H. L. S. Lee-Dillon's Milk Punch, 10st. 11lbs. (Mr. Power)	0
Mr. Tierce's Bantam, 10st. 6lbs. (Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. Roy's Snowdrift, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Gedge)	0
Mr. George's Howlet, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Jones)	0
Mr. Tilbro's Sleepy Jim, 11st. 3lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. Alexander's Blue Green, 10st. 13lbs. (Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. Carruther's Piquet, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Radclyffe)	0

Sleepy Jim led at the start, Sinbad being just behind, Bantam third, and Variation fourth. There was no alteration in the order when the village was reached, and the ponies were not being pressed very hard. Coming into the straight for the first time Sinbad overtook Sleepy Jim, and Bantam was in close attendance, but before reaching the grand stand Sleepy Jim had again forged to the front, Variation now being fourth. At the bridge Sinbad once more got the better of Sleepy Jim, who was quite out of the running by the time the plantation was reached, all the other ponies having passed him. Going down the hill Sinbad had a clear lead of two lengths, Bantam being next and Canary and Variation handy. In the straight Sinbad increased his lead, and Variation and Canary were now the next pair, but neither of these two could overtake Sinbad, who drew away and won very easily, Variation being placed second, Canary third, Nesting fourth, Bantam fifth, and Canary last. Time—3 mins. 36½ secs.

The PARSEE CUP; presented; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners of one race at this meeting 7lbs. extra; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. J. Peel's Torchlight, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Master)	1
Mr. Buxey's Black Velvet, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Taylor)	2
Mr. Buxey's Mayberry, 11st. 5lbs. (Mr. Crawford)	3
Mr. Newman's Times, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Burkill)	0
Mr. Fourman's Scandal, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Jones)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vagabond, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vicar, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Gedge)	0

Black Velvet, Vicar, and Times were the most prominent at the start, and these three were still ahead when the straight was reached. Passing the grand stand they were well together, Black Velvet taking the lead, but at the plantation Times got abreast of Black Velvet, and the Vicar fell into the rear, while going up the hill Torchlight came to the front in fine style, and he and Black Velvet led the way passing the village. Before the bend was reached Mayberry's speed improved and he got into third place, but some distance behind the leading pair. A fine race home ensued between Torchlight and Black Velvet, but the former increased his lead half a furlong from home and passed the post three lengths ahead, Mayberry being third, Scandal fourth, and Times fifth. Time—2 mins. 58½ secs.

The FAREWELL STAKES; value \$500; presented; second pony to receive 25 per cent. of entrance fees; third, 15 per cent.; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; a winner of one race at this meeting penalised 7 lbs., of two races 10 lbs., of three or more races 12 lbs. extra; subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96, allowed 7 lbs.; entrance \$10. From the two mile post once round and in.

Mr. Buxey's Comet, 11st. 8lbs. (Mr. Crawford)	1
Mr. J. Peel's Bellman, 10st. 10lbs. (Mr. Master)	2
Mr. Newman's Telegraph, 10st. 13lbs. (Mr. Burkill)	3

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Burnside, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Midwood)	0
Lord. C. Conyngham's Monte Carlo, 10st. 11lbs. (Mr. Power)	0
Capt. Loveband's Xerxes, 10st. 12lbs. (Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman)	0
Hon. H. L. S. Lee-Dillon's The Beast, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Gedge)	0
Mr. Fourman's Sepoy, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Jones)	0

A very good start was made, Monte Carlo showing the way from Sepoy and Comet, but at the bridge Comet went into second place, and Sepoy fell back into third position. Just before reaching the plantation Xerxes made an effort to get ahead, but the leaders augmented their speed, and at the hill Monte Carlo was passed by Comet, while Telegraph went into third place. Comet increased his lead coming down the hill, Telegraph and Burnside being closest to him, while at the village Bellman rushed into second position. Mr. Buxey's pony had a good lead in the straight and won easily, Bellman just getting ahead of Telegraph for second place, Sepoy being fourth. Time—2 mins. 36½ secs.

The CONSOLATION STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; second pony to receive \$50; for beaten China ponies at this meeting; weight for inches as per scale. Once round.

Mr. Buxey's Black Velvet, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Marshall)	1
Mr. Newman's Komatsu, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Burkill)	2
Mr. J. Peel's The Laird, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Cruickshank)	3
Mr. Boyd's Dunmore, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Satrap, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Midwood)	0
Captain Loveband's Artexerxes, 11st. 1lb. (Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman)	0
Mr. Power and Lord C. Conyngham's Borderer, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Power)	0
Lord C. Conyngham's Monte Cristo, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Radclyffe)	0
Mr. J. Peel's Bellringer, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Master)	0

The ten ponies were got away in good style, Black Velvet being ahead, closely followed by Artexerxes, who, however, soon dropped behind. The Laird was very prominent, and he, Monte Cristo, Black Velvet, and Bellringer passed the bridge almost abreast. Going up the hill Monte Cristo lost ground, and Komatsu and the Laird were now behind Black Velvet. This order was maintained into the straight, when Black Velvet improved his position and won by two lengths, Komatsu being second, The Laird third, and Satrap fourth. Time—2 mins. 4½ secs.

The CHAMPION STAKES; with \$250 added; for China ponies winners at this meeting only; a forced entry; entrance \$20; winner of two races \$30; of three or more \$50; weight for inches as per scale. One mile and half.

Mr. Newman's Standard, 11st. 5lbs. (Mr. Burkill)	1
Mr. Peel's Pineapple, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Master)	2
Mr. Arnold's Straightforward, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Midwood)	3
Mr. Jay's Ambitious, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Gresson)	0
Mr. Boyd's Dunblane, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Taylor)	0
Mr. Buxey's Surprise, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Crawford)	0
Mr. Peel's Torchlight, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. Fourman's Sinner, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Jones)	0
Mr. Buxey's Comet, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Thomas)	0
Mr. Fourman's Sinbad, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Hunt)	0
Mr. Dryasdust's Kindar, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Marshall)	0

This race brought out eleven runners and considerable interest was displayed in the event. There was a short delay at the post. Torchlight was the first to show the way, closely attended by Sinbad, while Comet and Ambitious were the most prominent of the others. Passing the village the ponies were somewhat straggling, Torchlight having a lead of two lengths from Surprise, with Kindar in close attendance third. Comet had obtained the lead before passing the grand stand, the next to him being Sinbad, while Torchlight lost ground. Comet continued to lead at the bridge, where Pineapple became second, Sinbad third, and Standard fourth. At the plantation the last named over-

took Sinbad and very quickly got into second position, while Torchlight became last. There was considerable alteration in the order on going down the hill, as Standard and Pineapple took the lead, and Straightforward bounded into third place, with Ambitious fourth. The leading three drew away from the others at the village, and Standard got the better of Pineapple and won easily, Straightforward being third, and Sinner fourth. Time—3 mins. 32 secs.

The NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$50 added; second pony to receive \$50; for beaten subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96; weight for inches as per scale. Half a mile.

Mr. Darius' Spartan, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	1
Mr. Buxey's Lighthouse, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Master)	2
Major Moore's Backsheesh, 11st. (Mr. Paley)	3
Mr. Leon's Flaneur, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Sterling)	0
Mr. Medico's M.D., 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Thomas)	0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Nesting, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Midwood)	0
Mr. Childwick's Bezique, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Gedge)	0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Truce, 10st. 8lbs. (Mr. Radclyffe)	0
Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Variation, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hart Buck)	0
Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman's Albany, 10st. 13lbs. (Mr. Burkill)	0
Mr. Carruthers' Marathon, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. Jay's Herold, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hunt)	0
Mr. Tierce's Bantam, 10st. 6lbs. (Mr. Crawford)	0
Hon. M. L. S. Lee-Dillon's Cocktail, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Marshall)	0
Dr. Noble's Presto, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Jones)	0
Mr. Tithong's Dragon, 10st. 12lbs. (Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman)	0

Spartan led from start to finish and a scrambling kind of race ended in his victory. Time, 67secs.

LIST OF WINNING OWNERS AND JOCKEYS.

The following is a list of the winning owners and jockeys during the three days' meeting. Of the owners Mr. Peel and Mr. Buxey divide honours for first place, each having scored six successes, while of the jockeys Mr. Master heads the table with nine wins to his credit, Mr. Burkill being second with eight.

OWNERS.		JOCKEYS.	
Mr. Buxey	6	Mr. Master	9
Mr. Peel	6	Mr. Burkill	8
Mr. Fourman	4	Mr. Crawford	5
Mr. Arnold	3	Mr. M. Jones	3
Mr. Derick-Hunter	2	Mr. Midwood	2
Mr. Jay	2	Mr. Gresson	1
Mr. Newman	2	Mr. Marshall	1
Mr. Darius	1	Mr. Radclyffe	1
Mr. Dryasdust	1		
Mr. Boyd	1		
Mr. Master	1		
Mr. Tilbro	1		

THE OFF DAY.

Monday, 24th February.

The cold wet weather of the first three days' meeting gave place to more genial conditions yesterday, when the "off" day's races were run. It was fine the whole of the afternoon, and as the air was much warmer there was a very large attendance in the grand stand and enclosure, while many hundreds of Chinese assembled on the green. A very enjoyable afternoon's sport was witnessed, a feature being two successive wins scored by Mr. J. D. Humphreys, who had been rather unfortunate with his ponies. There were again some very good fields, and altogether the wind up of the annual meeting was highly gratifying to all concerned. The "STRAIGHTFORWARD" CUP; presented; second pony to receive 70 per cent. of the entrance fees; third 30 per cent.; for all beaten subscription griffins of this season, 1895-96; placed ponies penalised 7 lbs.; entrance \$10. One mile.

Mr. Tierce's Bantam, 10st. 13lbs. (Mr. Gresson)	1
Mr. George's Howlet, 10st. 11lbs. (Mr. Fullerton)	2
Mr. Roy's Snowdrift, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Gedge)	3
Mr. Jay's Herold, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Jones)	0
Mr. Carruther's Pundra, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Radclyffe)	0

Hon. H. L. S. Lee-Dillon's Milk Punch, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Power) 0
 Mr. Alexander's Blue Green, 11st. 2lbs. (Mr. Taylor) 0
 Mr. Quintet's Cocktail, 11st. 3lbs. Mr. Marshall 0

The ponies were got away in good style, and passing the grand stand for the first time they were well together. At the bridge Bantam and Howlet cut out the work, followed by Snowdrift, who came almost level at the plantation. Coming down the hill Mr. Tierce's pony took a slight lead from Howlet and at the straight Snowdrift and Howlet were close up. It was a good race home between these three, Bantam getting home a length and a half ahead of Howlet; a length between second and third. Time—2 mins. 18 secs.

The "STANDARD" CUP; presented; value \$200; second pony to receive the entrance fees; for all beaten griffins at this meeting; weight for inches as per scale. Allowances: unplaced Derby griffins 5lbs., unplaced subscription griffins 7lbs.; entrance \$5; fourth day winners barred. A mile and a half.

Mr. Fourman's Scandal, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Jones) 1
 Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vagabond, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Hart Buck) 2
 Capt. Loveband's Xerxes, 10st. 7lbs. (Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman) 3
 Hon. H. L. S. Lee-Dillon's The Beast, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Power) 0

Xerxes obtained a slight lead after a very even start, but coming down the hill the ponies were almost abreast, and when the grand stand was passed for the first time there was little to choose between them. At the bridge Scandal and Vagabond led from Xerxes, who got also side of the leading pair at the plantation. On reaching the rock, however, Scandal took a lead of half a length, Vagabond being second, and at the village Xerxes had fallen three lengths behind, while The Beast was quite out of the running. A poor race home resulted in an easy win for Scandal; a bad third. Time—3 mins. 45½ secs.

The "SHANGHAI" CUP; presented; second pony to receive entrance fees; for beaten ponies at this meeting; griffins of this year allowed 7 lbs., subscription griffins of this year allowed 10lbs.; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5; fourth day winners barred. One mile.

Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Visitant II., 10st. 6lbs. (Mr. Hart Buck) 1
 Mr. Fourman's Sepoy, 10st. 10lbs. (Mr. Jones) 2
 Mr. Newman's Times, 10st. 8lbs. (Mr. Hunt) 3
 Captain Loveband's Artexerxes, 11st. 8lbs. (Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman) 0
 Mr. Buxey's Planet, 10st. 11lbs. (Mr. Gresson) 0
 Mr. Derick-Hunter's Speedwell, 10st. 8lbs. (Mr. Radclyffe) 0
 Mr. Dryasdust's Cobweb, 11st. 6lbs. (Mr. Marshall) 0
 Lord C. Conyngham's Monte Carlo, 10st. 10lbs. (Mr. Power) 0

There were two false starts. Artexerxes took a slight lead at first, but the ponies were well together on passing the grand stand. At the bridge Visitant II. came to the front, while Monte Carlo fell in the rear. Sepoy almost overtook Visitant II. on nearing the rock, but Mr. Hart Buck improved his speed and at the village led by a length. Monte Carlo now came up with the others, but it was evident that the race home would be between Visitant II. and Sepoy as they had a good lead on entering the straight, Times being next to them. Visitant II. got the advantage of Sepoy in the straight and won by two lengths; six lengths between second and third. Time—2 mins. 24½ secs.

The "LUCKY" CUP; presented; second pony to receive the entrance fees; for beaten subscription griffins of this season; ponies that have run second penalized 3 lbs.; unplaced ponies allowed 3 lbs.; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5; fourth day winners barred. One mile.

Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Variation, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Hart Buck) 1
 Dr. Noble's Presto, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Radclyffe) 2
 Mr. Buxey's Lightheart, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Marshall) 3

Major Moore's Backsheesh, 10st. 13lbs. (Mr. Paley) 0
 Mr. Roy's Snowdrift, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Gresson) 0
 Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman's Albany, 10st. 9lbs. (Owner) 0
 Mr. Derick-Hunter's Nesting, 10st. 9lbs. (Mr. Jones) 0
 Mr. Quintet's Cocktail, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Gedge) 0
 Mr. Burder's Sensation, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Power) 0

The winner took a slight lead on passing the grand stand for the first time, but passing the plantation he lost ground, and the order was somewhat straggling. At the village, however, Mr. Humphreys' pony gained on his opponents and passed the winning post six lengths in front of Presto. Time—2 mins. 27 secs.

The MAFOOS' CHAMPIONS; first prize, \$25; second prize, \$15; third prize, \$5; for winners only; entrance \$5. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Jay's Ambitious, 10st. (Goose) 1
 Mr. Fourman's Sinbad, 10st. (Chun Fun) 2
 Mr. Buxey's Black Velvet, 10st. 3lbs. (Monkey) 3
 Mr. J. Peel's Heatherbell, 10st. (Kangaroo) 0
 Mr. J. Peel's Bluebell, 10st. 1lb. (Codfish) 0
 Mr. Dryasdust's Kindar, 10st. (So) 0

The race excited considerable interest amongst the Chinese spectators, and it would be interesting to know whether they knew what curious names some of the jockeys were given. Ambitious took a long lead at the rock and won in a canter. Time—2 mins. 59 secs.

The HONGKONG STEEPLECHASE CUP; presented by A. C. S. Manners, Esq.; for all China ponies; previous winners of a steeplechase 7 lbs. extra; entrance \$5 to go to second pony; over a course selected by the Stewards. Six to start or no race. This race did not fill.

The "JOHN PEEL" CUP; presented; for all beaten ponies at this meeting; placed ponies 3 lbs. extra; subscription griffins of this season allowed 5 lbs.; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5 to go to second pony; fourth day winners barred. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Boyd's Dunmore, 11st. 5lbs. (Mr. Marshall) 1
 Mr. Newman's Telegraph, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Hunt) 2
 Mr. Derick-Hunter's Satrap, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Jones) 3
 Lord C. Conyngham's Monte Cristo, 11st. 4lbs. (Mr. Power) 0
 Mr. Power and Lord C. Conyngham's Borderer, 11st. 1lb. (Mr. Radclyffe) 0

A good start was made, Dunmore being the first away, followed by Telegraph, while Monte Cristo was last. At the plantation Telegraph caught up Dunmore, who had been leading by two lengths, and before reaching the rock Satrap overtook the leaders. The three came into the straight almost abreast, but Dunmore and Telegraph drew away, the former winning by two lengths and a half; a bad third. Time—3 mins. 3 secs.

The MAFOOS' RACE; first prize \$20; second prize \$10; third prize \$5; for all beaten ponies; weight 10st.; entrance \$5. Once round.

Mr. J. Peel's Bellman, 10st. (Gorilla) 1
 Major Thomas's Morrison, 10st. (Schumann) 2
 Mr. George's Howlet, 10st. (Chow Sang) 3
 Capt. Loveband's Artexerxes, 10st. (Chun Sun) 0

Mr. J. Peel's The Laird, 10st. (Codfish) 0
 Mr. Fourman's Sepoy, 10st. (Tin Sin) 0
 Mr. J. D. Humphreys' Vagabond, 10st. (Cheung Hoi) 0
 Mr. Boyd's Bluejacket, 10st. (Mouse) 0

The Laird led as far as the plantation, when he was rapidly overhauled by Howlet, who in turn was passed by Bellman. The last named won easily by several lengths. Time—2 mins. 9½ secs.

SAILORS' RACE; first prize \$25; second \$15; third \$10. Once round.

Wright ... 1
 Miles ... 2
 Short ... 3
 Curtis, Ball, Stewart, McCarthy, O'Brien, Blower, Scott, Coleman, Herbert, and Robinson also ran.

This race provoked roars of laughter from the spectators, owing to the singular antics of

both ponies and riders. One pony first of all ran out of the course, and another raced round the course twice before his rider could pull him up. The race itself was really a long procession with big gaps between the various ponies, but it created a keen feeling of rivalry and the winning man looked very proud as he returned to the enclosure.

SALE OF RACING PONIES.

After the race meeting comes the pony sale. On Tuesday afternoon sixty-nine ponies, most of which had competed in last week's meeting, were sold by action in front of the City Hall. Mr. T. F. Hough was the auctioneer, and as usual there was a large attendance, while prices ruled fairly good. The first pony of special note to be bid for was Ambitious, and \$100 was the first offer. Mr. Hough was as persuasive as possible with the public and as a particular inducement for bidders he remarked that the "pony would suit admirably for a small course." The bidding at once increased by fifties at a time, and \$600 was reached. No one would go further, and the pony was consequently withdrawn. Sleepy Jim, who was said to be very wide awake, was sold to Mr. Landale for \$150. M.D., whom "you all want, but you are too diffident," was sold for \$40 to Mr. Ross. Herold fetched \$135, being knocked down to Mr. Marty, and Morrison was sold to Major Thomas for \$155. Albany—"this pony will do anything"—brought in \$140, Mr. Landale being the purchaser; Nixnutz fetched \$35 from Mr. Dowling, and Chance \$15 from Mr. Kennedy. Vagabond, "whose name belies him," was sold to Mr. Gresson for \$150; Variation to Mr. Landale for \$130, Visitant II. to Mr. Gedge for \$165, Vehicle Ordinance to Mr. Master for \$65, and Vapour to Mr. Howland for \$50. Niggler was given special notice. He had run in only one race which he won, and so he has an unbeaten record, said the auctioneer. The price paid was \$125 by Mr. Landale. Grey Leg only fetched \$25, although "he was a racehorse every inch of him." Kingscote received special attention because "he could go up and down the hills like a cat, and with very little training will carry a lady or a basket," and he was sold to Mr. Whitehead for \$180. Among the other ponies sold were—Blue Green for \$65 to Captain Burnie; Rumiuder for \$55 to Mr. Kennedy; Truce for \$125 to Captain Burnie; Cocktail to Mr. Harton for \$9; Marathon to Mr. Manners for \$55; Bantam to Mr. Kennedy for \$150; Backsheesh to Mr. Kennedy for \$40; Satrap to Mr. Landale for \$165; Armistice to Mr. Newgent for \$55; Burnside to Mr. Landale for \$145; Speedwell to Mr. Landale for \$125; Grey Leg to Mr. Kennedy for \$125; Son of a Gun to Mr. Kennedy for \$115; Kommiss to Captain Radclyffe for \$100; Consul to Mr. Cumming for \$120; Borderer to Mr. Cumming for \$190; Kindar was withdrawn at \$190; Sensation to Mr. Kennedy for \$50; Canary to Mr. Kennedy for \$165; Bluebell to Mr. Cruickshank for \$200; Paradox to Mr. Gresson for \$105; Dunmore to Mr. Gresson for \$115; Monte Carlo to Mr. Marty for \$100; Monte Cristo to Captain Bethune for \$70; Bezique to Mr. Kennedy for \$120; Black Diamond to Mr. Marty for \$75; Dragon to Mr. Marty for \$170; Milk Punch to Mr. Marty for \$80. Baccarat at \$100 and Pandra at \$50 were bought in.

An unfortunate accident happened during the progress of the semi-final tie for the Football Cup between the Hongkong Football Club and H.M.S. Centurion on the 17th Feb. Soon after the game started a very heavy shower of rain fell and the ground soon became a quagmire, but the game was proceeded with. Just before the finish Oliver, one of the Hongkong Club's half backs, raced up to a member of the Centurion team with the intention of frustrating a kick. Oliver slipped in the attempt and received a kick which was intended for the ball on his shin, just above the ankle. The bone snapped and the injured man was taken to the Royal Naval Hospital, where it was found that the fracture was a simple one, but it will necessitate his detention in the hospital for several weeks. The game was continued after Oliver had been removed and resulted in a win for the Centurion team by two goals to nil.

SUPREME COURT.

18th February.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HON. W. M. GOODMAN (ACTING
CHIEF JUSTICE.)THE QUARRY BAY ARMED ASSAULT AND
ROBBERY.

Ng Mun was charged with burglary and larceny, and with committing an armed assault with intent to rob.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General) prosecuted on behalf of the Crown, being instructed by Mr. Johnson (Crown Solicitor).

The following gentlemen were sworn on the jury:—Messrs. C. Perkins, E. M. Roberts, J. H. Maclehoose, W. H. Day, J. M. P. Tavares, T. B. Powell, and M. J. Aquino.

The prisoner, accompanied by other men, entered a house at Quarry Bay, gagged the inmates, and stole what property he could comfortably carry away. The jury found a verdict of guilty, and a sentence of three years' imprisonment and a flogging of thirty strokes was passed.

ASSAULT.

Chan Sam was sent to gaol for two years for committing an assault with intent to rob.

19th February.

DRUGGING AND ROBBERY.

Chun Tsu Tong was charged with administering a stupefying drug called datura with intent to enable him to steal the goods and chattels of Chun Tsat; also with administering a drug, the name of which is not known, with a similar intention; and also with stealing three pairs of gold bangles, eight finger rings, a set of gold tooth picks, a piece of jade stone, a gold hairpin, a pair of jade stone drops, a small ivory dressing case, and \$4 in money, the property of Chun Tsat.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General) prosecuted on behalf of the Crown, and was instructed by Mr. A. B. Johnson (Crown Solicitor). Prisoner, who spoke English, pleaded not guilty.

The following jurors were sworn—Messrs. E. J. Ellis, V. A. de P. Collaco, E. C. Ray, W. G. Humphreys, T. E. da Silva, G. Eckley, and F. A. dos Remedios.

The Acting Attorney-General explained the facts of the case, and said that the prosecutrix was a prostitute, and on the evening of the 6th November she and the prisoner and another couple were in a brothel in Possession Street. They had dinner, and prisoner produced two bottles of stout. He emptied one bottle into three glasses, and poured some of the contents of the other into prosecutrix's glass, at the same time saying, "It cools the system and expels poison." Soon after drinking the stout she became dazed, and prisoner pushed her on to a bed in the room, and gave her a cup of blacklooking tea to drink. This made her worse, and she was rendered unconscious. The next thing she remembered was seeing the prisoner strip her of all the jewellery she had upon her, with the exception of two finger rings, which were doubtless too difficult to remove. She was too weak to offer resistance, and she remained in this helpless condition until daylight, when she gave information to the police, and the prisoner was afterwards arrested. Mr. Browne, the Assistant Government Analyst, had analysed the contents of some of the vessels and he would say that he had discovered traces of a stupefying drug which is known as datura. Dr. Atkinson had also experimented with the drug, and he would say that when he applied it to the human eye, the pupil of the eye dilated, showing the poisonous nature of the drug.

Several witnesses were called to bear out the Acting Attorney-General's opening statement, and in his defence the prisoner made a speech of over two hours' duration. He finished just before seven o'clock, when his Lordship said he would prefer to adjourn his summing up until this morning. The jury, however, asked for the case to be concluded before the Court rose, and his Lordship acceded to their request, and after a brief adjournment he summed up.

The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty on the second and third counts. His Lordship sentenced the prisoner to two years' hard labour on the second count, and one year's hard labour on the third count, the latter sentence to take effect after the expiration of the first.

THE JUBILEE OF FREEMASONRY
IN HONGKONG.

GRAND BALL AT THE CITY HALL.

On Monday evening, 17th February, a ball was given at the City Hall by the Masonic Fraternity to celebrate the Jubilee of Zetland Lodge and the introduction of Freemasonry into Hongkong. The occasion was justly deemed an important one by Masons and no effort was spared to make the celebration worthy of it, the result being one of the most brilliant and successful functions the City Hall has ever seen. The decorations were most effective and the arrangements for the comfort and enjoyment of the guests were all that could be desired. The weather was unfortunately cold and wet, which probably deterred some from attending, especially residents at the Peak and Kowloon, but the large number of guests present showed once more how rapidly the community is outgrowing the accommodation afforded by the City Hall for gatherings of this nature. Upwards of twelve hundred invitations were issued and the attendance was between eight and nine hundred.

Before describing the ball in detail a brief glance at the history of Freemasonry in Hongkong may not be without interest.

On the 31st December, 1845, nine members of the craft then resident in the colony, being desirous to establish a lodge here, forwarded a petition to the Grand Lodge of England for a warrant giving them the necessary authority for so doing. The petition was recommended by the Master and Wardens of the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 735, then meeting in Canton, but now domiciled at Shanghai. The petition was granted and the warrant, dated 21st March, 1846, having been received, the new Lodge, which was named the Zetland, held its first meeting on the 24th June of that year, Brother Goldsmith being appointed the Worshipful Master. For some years the Lodge met in hired rooms, which were found more or less inconvenient, and changes were rather frequent. Other troubles also attended the early working of the Lodge and at one time its very existence seemed in jeopardy. In 1852, however, it received a large accession of strength when Right Worshipful Brother Rawson, the District Grand Master of South China (as the district was then named), consented to fill the chair. An era of prosperity dawned on the Lodge with Right Wor. Bro. Rawson's assumption of office and to the foundation then laid the craft in this district is indebted for much of its present well-being. Right Wor. Bro. Rawson was succeeded by Wor. Bro. Mercer, a distinguished member of the Civil Service of the colony, and the chair was afterwards successively filled by a number of able and distinguished Masons. Having moved about from place to place the Lodge at length decided to build premises of its own and the site now occupied by the Masonic Hall was acquired by lease from Bro. Tarrant. The foundation stone was laid on the 1st February, 1853, with full Masonic honours, the occasion being made the greatest Masonic function which has ever been held in the colony. The craft, however, rapidly outgrew the accommodation afforded by its new home, and in 1865 the building was reconstructed, another storey being added. In the meantime more satisfactory arrangements were made with regard to the tenure of the site, which is now held direct from the Government on a Crown lease. At various times other lodges have branched off from the Zetland, as the number of members increased, but there has never been anything in the nature of unfriendly separation. At present there are in the colony five craft lodges, working, with the exception of one belonging to the Scottish constitution, under the District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China, whose jurisdiction extends as far north as Foochow; a Lodge of Instruction; a District Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masonry and

four Chapters, one of which is under the Scottish constitution; two Mark Lodges and a Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners; a Preceptory of Knights Templar, a Rose Croix Chapter, and another Chapter of the same degree working under the Scottish rite. Within the last few years a Benevolence Fund has been established for the relief of indigent brothers and the widows and orphans of Masons.

The members of Zetland Lodge decided that the jubilee of the Lodge should be celebrated in a fitting manner, and a desire having been evinced by the other Lodges to cooperate and make the celebration commemorative not only of the foundation of the mother lodge of the district but also of the introduction of Masonry into the colony, the idea was gladly adopted. A ball was considered the most appropriate form of celebration and a strong committee, composed of representatives of the various lodges and other Masonic bodies, was appointed to carry out the arrangements.

The decorations first call for notice. A temporary portico had been erected, which was hung with coloured Japanese lanterns. In the hall the spaces between the pillars leading to the staircase were filled in with arches of evergreens and the floor was carpetted with canvass painted to represent the Masonic tessellated pavement. At the foot of the staircase were the two golden pillars from the Lodge room, bearing the terrestrial and celestial globes. The staircase was carpetted with red cloth and the balustrade was covered with foliage and flowers. On the first landing, facing the stairs, was a large mirror, in front of which was a pedestal, bearing the volume of the sacred law, flanked on each side by the rough and perfect ashlar. At either side of the mirror were shields bearing the arms of the colony and of Zetland Lodge and the figures 1846-1896. On the side walls were life-size tracings of figures emblematic of the cardinal virtues, temperance, justice, prudence, and fortitude. A profusion of exquisite ferns, palms, and other plants and flowers bedecked the staircase and the square and compasses and stars worked in flowers or tinsel were introduced with pleasing effect. In the ante-room was a portrait of the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the craft, surmounted by His Royal Highness's crest. Royal Arch banners and other Masonic regalia and devices were hung round the walls, and the time-honoured portrait of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, the only lady ever admitted to the craft, was in evidence. At the head of St. George's Hall was a splendid masonic trophy with the banner of the District Grand Chapter in the centre and those of the District Grand Lodge and Zetland Lodge on either side, various other masonic devices and regalia being introduced with excellent judgment and taste. Over the doorways were the names of the various virtues held in special regard by Masons, and on the pillars were shields with various appropriate devices. The most striking feature in the room, however, was the magnificent "blazing star" in the centre, formed by electric lights, which diffused a pleasant but not excessively brilliant illumination throughout the room. The band was placed in the eastern doorway leading from St. George's to St. Andrew's Hall in a very tastefully constructed stand wreathed with evergreens and hung with masonic aprons, etc. The walls of St. Andrew's Hall also displayed a wealth of masonic devices, and at one end was a figure representative of a Knight Templar, while at the other end the regalia of that degree was exhibited. Supper was served in the Theatre, and the stage, where the principal table was laid, was pronounced by everybody one of the greatest triumphs of the decorator's art they had ever seen. The proscenium was covered with evergreens among which glowed numerous white and rose electric lights. The scenery at the back represented an oriental scene, the effect of which was heightened by the picturesque costumes of the band of the Hongkong Regiment, which supplied music during supper. At the front part of the stage a cornucopia formed a pleasing feature in the decorations. The front of the dress circle was hung with Master Masons' aprons and festoons of white and coloured bunting with a silver star hanging from each festoon. On the pillars at

the back of the dress circle were Knight Templar shields and more festoons of bunting. The decorations everywhere were most effective and tasteful and the committee that had charge of this important part of the work is to be congratulated on the result of its labours.

A picturesque ceremonial had been arranged for the reception of the principal guests and it was most effectively carried out, except that unfortunately no public intimation had been given of the time at which the Governor would arrive, and as His Excellency was punctual to the minute, and came before the Masons had quite completed their forming up, there was a little delay, which caused a block at the door and compelled a number of the arriving guests to wait outside in their chairs, thereby disappointing many who had looked forward to seeing the arch of steel and the Masons arranged under their respective banners. The members of the District Grand Lodge were formed in two lines from the main entrance to the foot of the stairway, while the right and left of the stairway were lined by the Worshipful Master (Wor. Bro. D. Macdonald) and officers of the Zetland Lodge, and, higher up, by the Knights Templar, who formed an arch of steel with their swords. From the top of the west branch of the staircase a passage was formed through St. Andrew's Hall and to the head of St. George's Hall by two lines of Masons—members of Blue Lodges from the top of the staircase to the entrance of St. George's Hall, and from the entrance of St. George's Hall to the pedestal at the head. Royal Arch Masons and St. John's Lodge (Scottish). The distinguished guests were H.E. the Governor, H.E. Admiral Buller, C.B., and Mrs. Buller, H.E. General Wilsone Black, C.B., Past Deputy District Grand Master of Gibraltar, and Mrs. Black, and the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart and Mrs. Lockhart. They were received at the entrance by the District Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother the Hon. C. P. Chater, who escorted them upstairs, preceded by the Wor. Master and Officers of Zetland Lodge and the members of the District Grand Lodge. In St. George's Hall lines were again formed by these in the same order as before and the District Grand Master and guests advanced between the lines and the ball was declared open.

Dancing commenced shortly afterwards to the excellent strains of the Rifle Brigade Band, the first set of Lancers being formed as follows:—The Right Wor. District Grand Master and Mrs. Black, H.E. the Governor and Mrs. Buller, General Black and Mrs. Stewart Lockhart, Admiral Buller and Mrs. Milward, Commodore Boyes and Lady Maud Warrender, Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart and Mrs. Danby, Wor. Bro. R. Cooke, D.G.S.W., and Mrs. Boyes, and Hon. E. R. Bellios, C.M.G., and Mrs. Cooke. The dance programme was as follows:—

Lancers	...	Carmen.
Walse	...	Toreador.
Walse	...	Ever and Ever Mine.
Polka	...	Bric-a-Brac.
Walse	...	Dorothy.
Walse	...	El Dorado.
Lancers	...	Round the Town.
Polka	...	Black and Tan.
Walse	...	Visions d'Amour.
Barn Dance	...	Happy Darkies.

SUPPER DANCES.

Walse	...	Suspinell.
Walse	...	My Sweetheart.
Walse	...	Les Sireennes.

Walse	...	River of Years.
Caledonians	...	Highland Home.
Walse	...	Love's Dreamland.
Polka	...	Return of Spring.
Walse	...	Blue Danube.
Lancers	...	King of the Revels.
Barn Dance	...	The Boston Belle.
Walse	...	Go Bang.
Walse	...	Cupid.
Galop	...	John Peel.

The call to supper was sounded by a bugle and a procession was formed, headed by the principal guests, who were seated at the table on the stage in the following order:—The District Grand Master and Mrs. Buller, the Governor and Mrs. Black, Admiral Buller and Mrs. Cooke, General Black and Mrs. Boyes, Commodore Boyes and Mrs. Wise, Captain

Sterling, A.D.C., and Miss Boyes. After supper the toasts of "The Queen and Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master," and the Tyler's toast were duly honoured.

Dancing was then resumed and continued until well into the morning. All present appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves and too much praise cannot be given to the members of the various committees who worked so hard to make the Masonic Jubilee Ball worthy of the occasion.

The following is a list of the Stewards:—

H.E. Bro. Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.; H.E. Bro. Vice-Admiral Alexander Buller, C.B.; H.E. Wor. Bro. Major-General Wilsone Black, C.B., Past D. Dist. G.M., Gibraltar; Right Wor. Bro. the Hon. C. P. Chater, Dist. G. M., Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, D. Dist. G. M., Chairman.

Wor. Brothers:—

G. C. Anderson.	J. L. de S. Alves.
W. M. B. Arthur.	St. A. Baylee, R.N.
G. Caldwell.	H. B. Bradshaw, R.N.
J. Christie.	D. E. Brown.
R. Cooke.	J. Crook.
W. Danby.	W. A. Cruickshank.
S. L. Darby.	F. W. Edwards.
A. D. Death.	A. Ewing.
E. C. Ellis.	C. H. Grace.
W. L. Ford.	V. A. C. Hawkins.
W. C. H. Hastings.	J. Kirkwood.
F. Howell.	H. Lee-Dillon, R.B.
G. P. Jordan.	C. S. McKinley.
G. Jordan.	H. N. Mody.
P. J. W. King.	G. Moffat.
J. W. Kinghorn.	G. K. Moore, A.P.D.
R. K. Leigh.	G. Sayer.
J. Lowrie.	W. M. Thompson, R.E.
D. Macdonald.	A. Tillett.
L. Mallory.	W. J. Tutchter.
H. W. Robertson.	P. R. Wilson.
P. R. Simmonds, R.A.	
T. Spafford.	
G. A. Watkins.	
F. W. Watts.	
A. Woolley.	

Bro. A. Shelton Hooper, Hon. Treasurer, Bro. E. W. Mitchell, Hon. Secretary, General Committee.

The Committees were constituted as follows:—

Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, Chairman of General Committee, and Bro. E. W. Mitchell, Hon. Secretary, *ex officio* members of all sub-committees.

Dance—Wor. Bro. H. W. Robertson, Bro. Lee-Dillon, R.B., Bro. W. A. Cruickshank, and Bro. W. M. Thompson, R.E.

Supper—Wor. Bro. P. R. Simmonds, R.A., Bro. C. H. Grace.

Cloak and Card Room—Bro. the Rev. St. A. Baylee, R.N., Wor. Bro. G. C. Anderson, Wor. Bro. J. Lowrie, and Wor. Bro. Dr. Jordan.

Invitation—Wor. Bro. W. M. B. Arthur, Wor. Bro. E. C. Ellis, Wor. Bro. S. J. Hanisch, Wor. Bro. F. W. Watts, Wor. Bro. Capt. W. C. H. Hastings, and Bro. Major G. K. Moore, A.P.D.

Decoration—Bro. H. B. Bradshaw, R.N., Wor. Bro. G. Caldwell, Wor. Bro. R. Cooke, Bro. J. Crook, Wor. Bro. W. Danby, Bro. A. Ewing, Bro. F. W. Edwards, Bro. F. Howell, Bro. J. Kirkwood, Wor. Bro. D. Macdonald, Bro. C. S. McKinley, Bro. G. Sayer, Wor. Bro. T. Spafford, and Bro. W. J. Tutchter.

Ceremonial—Wor. Bro. S. L. Darby, Wor. Bro. L. Mallory, Wor. Bro. Capt. P. R. Simmonds, Wor. Bro. S. J. Hanisch, and Wor. Bro. G. Caldwell.

MR. ANDREW'S CASE AT WUCHOWFU.

We are now in receipt of further particulars concerning the illegal stoppage of the sale of a cargo of foreign goods taken to Wuchow by Mr. John Andrew under transit pass. Below will be found a translation of a proclamation issued by the Prefect of Wuchow on the 17th February, although it is dated the day before. This interesting document first refers to the matter of a steamer coming to Wuchow from Canton and says she did not come up on Mr. Andrew's business but about something else. The facts of the case, which were at the time represented to Mr. Consul Fraser at Canton, are these. The steamer referred to is the small Chinese gunboat *Pochi*, which arrived at Wuchow two days after

Mr. Andrew, i.e., 3rd January, under charge of a petty mandarin of the name of Cheong. This mandarin brought with him a despatch from the Viceroy to the Prefect instructing the latter to watch Mr. Andrew's cargo and get the buyers punished, as soon as the goods were landed, for having business dealings with him. All the piece goods merchants were warned the same evening by other passengers by the *Pochi*, who were apparently sent up on purpose, what the contents of the despatch were, with the result that all the buyers (Mr. Andrew had sold most of his cargo at a good profit) came and begged of Mr. Andrew not to disclose their names and not to insist upon their taking delivery, as otherwise they would get into serious trouble. Mr. Andrew had, fortunately for them, not given delivery of anything, nor had he been paid. Payment against delivery was to have taken place next morning, 4th January. Mr. Andrew at once called on the Prefect about the matter, but that official declined to see him. Mr. Andrew then sent a message through the Prefect's servant asking him to issue a proclamation informing merchants that his cargo had paid all duties and that there would be no danger to them by buying the goods. The servant returned to the courtyard, where Mr. Andrew had been left, with the answer "chielo" (go away), which he shouted out as loud as he could. Since then Mr. Andrew has seen or heard nothing of the Prefect; his case is still in the hands of Mr. Fraser and Mr. Andrew is still watching his cargo at Wuchowfu.

The other passengers by the *Pochi* above referred to were Chow, another small mandarin, and Tung Chak Tin and Liu Kwai Seak, both spies belonging to a hong or company calling themselves Tong Yick Tong. The *Pochi* remained at Wuchow for over a month and when she left the four passengers transferred themselves into an old guard boat and only took their departure about a week ago. All their time at Wuchow was spent in going about from house to house impressing and intimidating merchants not to buy Mr. Andrew's cargo.

The action of the *Pochi's* crew was duly represented by Mr. Fraser to the Viceroy, who denied it at once and said that the launch was at Wuchow to look after opium smugglers. The Viceroy has doubtless asked the Prefect to also add his denial to the proclamation, thereby inferentially condemning Mr. Andrew of telling lies.

It may be mentioned in passing that the hong or company styling themselves Tong Yick Tong is composed of members of piece goods and cotton yarn hongs in Hongkong. They have a contract with the lekin authorities to collect lekin on this class of cargo and in addition to the tariff rates they are allowed to collect from importers 10 per cent. on the amount of the lekin for their own trouble. Cargo belonging to any of their own members, however, is allowed to go without the extra squeeze and they are thereby getting a monopoly of the trade. They are immensely disliked throughout the Kwangtung Province and anything that would lead to the destruction of the combination would be hailed with delight. This company has espionage on every Canton steamer and to them Mr. Andrew is indebted for the attention of the Viceroy being called to his cargo.

But to return. The proclamation goes on to say that Chinese merchants are allowed to trade with Mr. Andrew, but as soon as the cargo passes into native hands it will be taxed with lekin and duty again. This of course places Mr. Andrew in a worse position than before, as no merchant would buy cargo from him on those terms. The amount they would have to pay is not stated, and the wording in the original is ambiguous, the characters used being open to a translation which would represent the merchants as being liable to punishment in other ways for having cargo sold by Mr. Andrew in their possession. All the merchants decline to buy the goods now on any terms.

What Mr. Andrew has claimed all along is that having paid for and received a transit pass to take his goods to Wuchow he is entitled to get them landed free of all taxes and placed in exactly the same position as similar goods proceeding via the barriers and paying the local taxes. Any inland tax after that which applies

to the latter should also be paid by the former, but nothing differential.

Mr. Andrew sent his card to the Prefect on the evening of the 17th February and asked him for a copy of the proclamation, but the Prefect, with his usual politeness, kept the card and sent or said nothing.

More than ten days ago news was received from Peking that the Tsung-li Yamen had promised the desired proclamation. The following is the result:—

PROCLAMATION ISSUED BY THE PREFECT OF WUCHOWFU.

"The British merchant On To (Andrew) having brought goods here, I, the Prefect of Wuchow, examined the certificate and allowed the goods to pass, and the British merchant was then at liberty to transact business and sell his goods to Chinese subjects. A steamer afterwards arrived from the Eastern Province (Kwangtung) which the British merchant thought had come to stop his trade. He therefore asked me to issue a notice on the subject. The object of the steamer's visit was not to stop the foreigner selling goods and she has long ago returned to Kwangtung. I have now received instructions from the Viceroy by wire to arrange this business properly. I therefore issue this notice in order that Chinese merchants may understand that if they wish to buy foreign goods they are at liberty to do business with the foreigner. The regulations for preventing the evasion of payment of duty by Chinese do not apply to foreigners who have taken out transit passes under the treaty. You merchants, therefore, must not suppose that the foreign goods are prohibited. After the foreign goods have been taken delivery of by the Chinese merchants lekin and duty will be collected. Obey this. Dated the 4th day of the 1st moon of the 22nd year of Kwang Su."

WRECK OF THE BARQUE "LYNNWOOD" ON THE PRATAS.

THE CREW PICKED UP AT GAP ROCK.

On the morning of the 19th Feb. the German steamer *Cassius* picked up a crew of fourteen men belonging to the barque *Lynnwood*, of Nova Scotia, which was wrecked on the Pratras reef on Sunday morning last. The weather was very thick at the time the vessel struck, but happily the crew of fourteen, including the captain, Mr. Ross, succeeded in provisioning the lifeboat and long boat. The second day out the long boat was abandoned, her occupants being taken into the lifeboat. Early yesterday morning the lifeboat was sighted by the *Vladimir Monomach*, which brought it on to Gap Rock. The boat and crew were dropped at the lighthouse, where they were picked up yesterday morning by the *Cassius* and brought to Hongkong, apparently not much worse for their eventful experience.

Captain Ross gave the *Daily Press* reporter the following account of the shipwreck:—We left Shanghai on the 10th of February bound for Manila with ballast. We were to have started on the previous day, but a severe north-east snowstorm and gale detained us, and we anchored during that night at the lightship. After putting to sea we had no sight of the sun, and could not take observations, and we came down the Formosa Channel without seeing any lights or meeting any vessel. We were very careful in shaping the course in order to keep clear of the Pratras coral reef, which is about 200 miles from Hongkong, and in a direct line from Shanghai to Manila. We thought we were quite safe, but at 1 a.m. on Sunday morning last we made breakers straight ahead. We tried to wear the ship, but she went right on to the reef. The weather at the time was very thick and a very strong gale was blowing. The head yards were backed, and we endeavoured to set the ship off the reef, but she was driven further on by the wind, and at daylight we saw that the ship was breaking up; the decks and stern post had started, and she was making water. Under those circumstances we could do nothing but abandon the ship to her fate and save our lives. As quickly as possible we filled the lifeboat and the long boat with two weeks' provisions and a few effects belonging to the crew, of whom there were thirteen besides myself. It was with considerable difficulty that we managed to lower

the boats, and before leaving the ship we saw that any attempt to save her would be futile. We got into the boats and decided to proceed to Hongkong. Happily we were more fortunately provided for than shipwrecked sailors usually are, as we not only had a stock of provisions with us but also compasses, chronometers, and sextants. But we had a very trying time and endured great hardships. We were wet through to the skin and sleep was out of the question. The sea was rather rough, too, and on the second day out we deemed it prudent to abandon the long boat and take its occupants into the lifeboat. We kept a very anxious look-out for passing vessels, but it was not until we had been three days and three nights in the open that we sighted the Russian ironclad *Vladimir Monomach*, sixty miles south of Hongkong. The vessel was on a voyage to Singapore, but the captain very kindly took us on board and brought us to Gap Rock lighthouse, where we again entered the lifeboat and waited off the Rock until seven o'clock in the morning, when we were picked up by the German steamer *Cassius* and brought to Hongkong. I cannot find sufficient words to express my gratitude to the Russian officers for their great kindness. They treated us exceptionally well, and I shall never forget their kindness. My thanks are also due to the captain of the *Cassius*, who was very considerate to us.

One of the crew is a very intelligent West Indian named Richard Tankard, and he was at the wheel when the *Lynnwood* struck. He joined the ship at Newcastle and his experience during the past three years has not been a particularly pleasant one, as he has been shipwrecked twice. The seamen are now quartered at the Sailors' Home.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

19th February.

Residents in the colony may now dismiss any fear they entertained of a water famine, as at the present time there is a sufficient quantity of water stored in the reservoirs to meet the ordinary demands for the next twelve weeks. The calculation is made on the assumption that not a drop of rain falls in the meantime, but the rainy season should set in before that period elapses; indeed, judging by the recent rains, it looks as if the weather had already made up its mind to atone for last year's dilatoriness, and, if it will only keep fine for the races, we shall heartily welcome as many showers as will make the reservoirs bubble over as if with joy. On Monday morning the Tytam reservoir contained 118,000,000 gallons of water and the Pokfulam reservoir 36,000,000, giving a total of 154,000,000. The quantity lost from the reservoirs during last week was 6,000,000, and the quantity supplied to the town (the city and hill district) was 13,000,000, so really we gained 7,000,000 gallons of water by last week's rainfall. Therefore, assuming that the consumption averages 13,000,000 gallons a week, there is still a sufficient store to last for twelve weeks, even supposing no rain falls in the meantime. We are really not much worse off for water this year than we were last, as on the 1st February, 1895, the quantity in Tytam was 183,000,000 gallons and in Pokfulam 35,000,000; while on the 1st of February this year Tytam contained 130,000,000 gallons, and Pokfulam 37,000,000—altogether a decrease this year of just about four weeks' supply. The new catchment area at Tytam has proved a very great advantage, as the flow during the last four months has averaged 50,000 gallons a day.

"THE UNWARRANTABLE CHEEK" OF THE POLICE.

At the Magistracy on the 21st Feb. before Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, Mr. R. E. Humphreys, of Messrs. W. G. Humphreys and Co., was summoned for leaving his ricksha unattended in Elgin Road, Kowloon.

The defendant said he considered the action of Inspector Butlin in summoning him without giving warning was a very high handed proceeding, as he did not know that his coolie left the ricksha there.

Inspector Butlin replied that he was quite justified in taking the action he did, as he had considerable trouble in ascertaining the name

of the owner of the ricksha, which had to be taken to the Police Station, as there was no one in charge of it, and as he had received a threatening letter from the defendant.

The Magistrate called for the letter, and read as follows:—"The Bungalow. To the Inspector in charge of Yaumati Station. Sir—My coolie tells me that one of your men had the unwarrantable cheek to take my ricksha from his care to the Police Station. Please note that unless it is at once returned, together with an ample apology, I shall report the matter to the proper authorities.—Yours faithfully, R. E. Humphreys.—P.S.—Being mail day I have no time to come round, and I imagine it is best for all concerned that I cannot."

After reading the letter his Worship said the defendant could not take a better course than to admit the charge.

Defendant said he would admit it.

The Magistrate said he could not treat defendant differently from other people, and the usual fine of \$3 would be imposed.

OIL TANKS ON THE SHAUKIWAN ROAD.

On the afternoon of the 24th Feb. Mr. J. L. Prosser sold by auction on behalf of the Government three lots of land at North Point, which were offered together at an upset price of \$14,220. The contents of the three lots aggregate 134,000 square feet and the annual Crown rent is \$740. The property was knocked down for \$14,270 to Messrs. Meyer and Co., who, we hear, intend to construct tanks for the storage of Langkat oil. One of the lots is a marine lot and the other two are inland lots. The conditions of sale provide that the purchasers shall before the expiration of one calendar month commence the reclamation of the foreshore included in marine lot 277 and shall before the expiration of six months expend on rateable improvements not less than \$50,000 and before the expiration of a further six months a further sum of \$100,000. The following special condition is also included:—"The lots are sold subject to the right of obtaining a water supply from the valley in which inland lot 1,364 is situated as now existing; and the purchaser shall not be at liberty to interfere with such water supply without first, at his own expense and to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Works, constructing the necessary works for the continuance of the same." It is the intention, we understand, to construct a wharf, alongside which the vessels will lie while discharging, and the oil will be conveyed by pipes under the road to the tanks on the inland lots.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The twenty-seventh ordinary meeting of shareholders in the China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, was held at the Company's office, 3, Queen's Road Central, on the 19th Feb., at noon. Hon. A. McConachie presided, and there were present—Messrs. H. L. Dalrymple, D. R. Sassoon, N. A. Siebs, St. C. Michaelsen, J. Kramer (Directors), Geo. L. Tomlin (Secretary), Paul Jordan, R. H. R. Burder, J. A. Carvalho, J. R. Michael, J. H. Cox, G. C. Cox, A. M. Roza, A. M. R. Pereira, B. Byramjee, G. H. Michael, C. S. Sharp, H. M. Mehta, F. D. Guedes, E. Jones Hughes, F. Gowe, and Chan Fat.

The ACTING SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the Report and Statement of Accounts have been in your possession for about three weeks, and I presume it will be the pleasure, as is usual, of this Meeting to take them as read, and that I may at once proceed to make such remarks as they seem to call for. I must in the first place express regret that the results of 1894 compare so unfavourably with previous years, admitting only of a final dividend of \$1.00 per share, or 20 per cent. for the year, instead of the usual 30 per cent. You were no doubt prepared in a measure by my predecessor in the chair for a somewhat smaller dividend on the winding up of the 1894 account, but unfortunately the balance then carried forward has been still further reduced by losses, one fire alone making a difference in your dividend of a fraction

under \$1.50 per share. However, gentlemen, the account is now closed, and I am sure you will all join with me in hoping that the Company may long be spared a repetition of such a series of misfortunes as we had during the year now under notice, to give you an idea of which, I may remark that our loss ratio to premia in 1894 was 91.62 per cent. against an average of 30.33 per cent. for the previous five years. I turn now with much more pleasure to our working account of the past year, which shows a balance of \$235,664.14 carried forward to its credit, a sum which compares favourably with former accounts. Bearing in mind, however, that as it is impossible to estimate at this early stage what our profit will amount to when all of our risks have run off for the year 1895, which will not be until 31st December next, the Directors do not deem it advisable to declare more than the usual *interim* dividend, \$3.00 per share, but they trust that with ordinary fortune they may this time next year be in a position to meet you with a satisfactory balance sheet, showing such results as will enable your Directors to declare the customary final dividend of \$3.00 per share, as well as making an addition to our Reserve Fund, which has not been increased since the year's working of 1892. You will again notice an advance in our premia income, although the *net* gain is not much owing to our reinsurances being somewhat heavier. As you are no doubt aware, tariffs have recently been formed here, at Shanghai, and at other ports in China, and we trust shortly to see the movement extended in other quarters. In consequence of these tariffs much of our business is being done at *net* rates, and therefore the increase in our premia is really larger than it would appear to be if you compare the figures with previous years. Interest account marks a falling off of \$3,484.39, as you will observe, but of this upwards of \$2,500 was caused through extraordinary repairs to the Company's properties in order to comply with the new sanitary by-laws. The low rates of interest now ruling on deposits and mortgages have naturally affected our revenue from these sources to some extent, but not so much, I am afraid, as will be the case in the current year. Charges and commissions show an increase mainly on account of more business than usual coming from our Agencies. The losses for 1895 compare favourably with former accounts, but these have been increased by about \$18,700 since the end of the year, of which sum, however, some \$7,100 will fall on the current year's account. At the request of the Directors Mr. Tomlin inspected our Manila Agency's business in March last, and later on Mr. Coughtrie visited our Agencies at Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama, as well as Foochow, Amoy, and Swatow on his return voyage, and I am pleased to inform you that they found your interests well cared for. With regard to our loans on mortgages, the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Palmer and Turner, report on them favourably with but one or two trifling exceptions, where properties may have temporarily depreciated in value. I think that I have now touched upon all subjects of interest to you except to mention that owing to ill-health we have granted our Secretary, Mr. Coughtrie, a year's leave, and have appointed Mr. Tomlin Acting Secretary during his absence; but before proposing the adoption of the report and statement of accounts I shall be happy to answer any question relating to them that you may wish to put to me.

The CHAIRMAN—If there are no questions, gentlemen, I propose the adoption of the report and passing of the accounts.

Mr. C. S. SHARP—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the Report and Accounts. I think on the whole we have reason to be content with the Report and Accounts now before us. The high ratio of loss experienced for 1894 is fortunately one which has seldom occurred in the history of this Company, but it serves to bring home the possibilities which may at times have to be faced in a business such as this, and which are sometimes rather apt to be overlooked. It also justifies the conservative policy of the Board in appropriating during good years a considerable proportion of the profits for the purpose of building up the Reserve Fund, though thus leaving perhaps less

liberal dividends than some of us would have liked. As you have pointed out, it is now some years since the profits have contributed to the Reserve Fund, but I hope the time is now not far distant when it may be possible to again add something to this, the backbone of an Insurance Company. It is satisfactory to see the 1895 Accounts so far shape well and I trust the hopes you have expressed as to the ultimate result of that year's working may be fully verified. I think the prospects on the whole are very good, and with the improved rates under the new tariffs and ordinary immunity from fires I hope we shall soon see a return of the old prosperity of the Company. (Applause.) I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Carried.

Mr. E. J. HUGHES proposed the re-election of Messrs. St. C. Michaelsen and N. A. Siebs as Directors.

Mr. MEHTA seconded.

Carried.

Mr. BURDER proposed the re-election of Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. H. Potts as Auditors.

Mr. JORDAN second.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I thank you for your attendance. That is all the business before us. Dividend warrants will be posted on Monday next.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LIMITED.

The ordinary yearly meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, was held on the 25th February at the offices, 14, Praya Central. Mr. G. B. Dodwell presided, and there were also present Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Messrs. J. Kramer, St. C. Michaelsen, J. H. Lewis, N. A. Siebs, J. S. Van Buren (Directors), R. Cooke (Acting General Manager), T. I. Rose (Acting Secretary), Hon. A. McConachie, Messrs. T. Arnold, B. Byramjee, H. Crawford, L. K. Davis, H. M. S. H. Esmail, F. Henderson, E. Jones Hughes, J. D. Humphreys, P. Jordan, H. N. Mody, R. Mitchell, A. W. Becker, W. Parfitt, A. G. Stokes, R. L. Richardson, C. A. Tomes, G. Stewart, J. Y. V. Vernon, and W. H. Wickham.

The ACTING SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some days past I will, with your permission, take them as read. At our last meeting I was able to congratulate you on the accounts then before you showing a record half year. It affords me much pleasure, gentlemen, to preside again at a time when our accounts show still better results than we have ever yet been able to place before you. (Applause.) The last half year has indeed been a very busy one for all connected with the Company; it has been a case of almost night and day work for our staff and for our machinery, and our resources have at times been strained to their utmost. The alterations and extensions and improvements of our docks and plant, which have been continuously going on for years past, have enabled us to bring about these good results; it is only by a continuation of this policy of keeping our establishments well abreast of the times that we can hope to give satisfaction to our many customers. (Applause.) During the period our accounts cover, companies similar to ours at the northern ports have been quite unable to cope with all the work offering, and in consequence of this a great many vessels have been sent to Hongkong for docking and repairs, and the excellent report we are able to place before you to-day may, in a large measure, be attributed to this cause. (Applause.) If you will turn to your reports, gentlemen, you will find that we have available for appropriation the large sum of \$483,974.30. We recommend that a dividend for the half year of 8 per cent., equal to \$125,000, and a bonus of 4 per cent. which will absorb \$62,500, in all \$187,500, be paid to the shareholders; that a bonus of \$20,000 be distributed *pro rata* to contributing shareholders, that a bonus of \$22,000 be paid to the foreign staff of the Company, and that \$200,000 be passed to the reserve fund, leaving us with a balance of \$514,474.30, which

we propose to carry to the new account. I hope, gentlemen, that later on in this meeting our recommendations will have your approval. You will notice from the accounts that "sundry creditors" has been reduced by nearly \$90,000. Since the 31st December I am glad to say that the whole of our loans, with the exception of the Admiralty loan, have been paid off. (Applause.) The cost of material in hand has increased by some \$70,000. This item has had much consideration from the Acting Manager and the Board, but as explained to you at our last meeting, we find it absolutely necessary, in order to prevent delay, which would cause dissatisfaction to our various customers, to carry a large stock of the materials most likely to be needed. In addition to this I would mention we have a considerable amount of new work in hand, and that it is the cost of the material ordered for this new work that has brought about the increase in this item. Our interest account has been reduced by some \$6,000, and we hope that in the future very little will be required under this heading. At our last meeting, in reply to a shareholder, I said that we believed we had written down our property to what we considered to be a safe value; this past half-year we have made additions to our property, costing us some \$61,000, and we have not advised that any portion of this should be written off. We have gone on steadily increasing the tools which we require, and which we find so necessary for the satisfactory working of our business; some of these are already set up and in working order and others will be here shortly. As I said before, gentlemen, the policy of the directors is to maintain the establishments in a thorough state of efficiency and fit to undertake all the work that is likely to come to us. The new quarters for our staff at Kowloon are in course of erection, and we hope will be ready for occupation in another six months' time. The additions for the same purpose at Cosmopolitan Dock will be ready in a month or so. The No. 2 Dock at Kowloon has been lengthened from 330 feet to 371 feet. At Cosmopolitan Dock a new machine shop has been built and a new overhead travelling crane has been erected. Both of these were much needed. Our policy of keeping the Aberdeen Docks open and in working order has again been rewarded; our profits on this establishment have been very satisfactory, and we have been able to accept work which would otherwise have had to go past us. At our last meeting I promised that the directors would take into consideration the suggestion to subdivide our shares. As opinions on this subject varied considerably it was decided to issue a circular asking the shareholders to give us the benefit of their opinion, with the result that 120 shareholders, representing 7,326 shares, were against the sub-division, whilst only 20 shareholders, representing 1,262 shares, were in favour of it. The directors have therefore deemed it undesirable to proceed any further in this matter. (Applause.) With regard to the construction of another large dock I may say that your Board have made a proposal to Her Majesty's Government, but that no reply has yet been received. The negotiations are therefore only in their preliminary stage, and your directors deem it in the interests of the shareholders to refrain from making public any particulars. You may, however, rest assured that when any desirable arrangement can be made you will at once be taken into full confidence. (Applause.) Amongst our recommendations is one for a bonus of \$22,000 to be paid to the foreign staff of the Company. We are glad to be able to give practical illustration of our appreciation of the work that has been done by the staff; there have been heavy calls upon them, and their services have been willingly and cheerfully given. (Applause.) We are asking you to sanction our placing \$200,000 to reserve fund. Our reason for this step may be briefly stated. We believe that the past twelve months' business has been of an exceptional character, and that we cannot look forward to any prolonged continuation of such. Our object therefore is to provide during our good times against any inactivity which we are likely to experience in the future, and, with such a fund at our back, we hope to be able to maintain a steady dividend

for our shareholders. (Applause). We are also bearing in mind that it may at any time be very useful to have funds in hand to enable us to take advantage of opportunities for extensions or developments which we may consider desirable. (Applause). Before proposing the adoption and passing of the accounts I shall be happy to answer to the best of my ability any questions that you may desire to ask.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I do not think, Mr. Chairman, that any questions need be asked—

The CHAIRMAN—Excuse me, Mr. Humphreys; I believe you are not a shareholder, and therefore you are not in order.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—Not in order?

The CHAIRMAN—I believe you are not a shareholder.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I am a shareholder. I am one of the largest shareholders you have in your books.

The CHAIRMAN—You are not on the register, Mr. Humphreys.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—Oh, well, I'll sit down, but as a matter of fact I am one of the largest shareholders in the colony.

The CHAIRMAN—I cannot allow you to speak.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I do not intend to add in any way to your difficulties, but I only want to compliment you upon the successful result of the half year's working, and to make a suggestion which I think would be of great benefit to the shareholders of the Dock Company in the future in reference to the matter which—

The CHAIRMAN—I must call you to order, Mr. Humphreys, under the circumstances, as you are not on the register as a shareholder.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—Are you quite sure of that?

The CHAIRMAN—Well, the list is here, if you will kindly come and look over it. I shall be very happy to hear you if—

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I am quite willing to take your word for it, but I came here this afternoon not in any way to say anything but in praise of the manner in which the work of the Dock Company has been conducted for the half year, and I, in common no doubt with the shareholders, am very jubilant with the result. I have only one word more, and—

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Humphreys—

Mr. HUMPHREYS (laughing)—You won't let me bring it in.

All the shareholders now joined in the mirth provoked by Mr. Humphreys, who was proceeding to speak when

The CHAIRMAN remarked—I must ask you to sit down, Mr. Humphreys.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—Well, I'll sit down.

The CHAIRMAN—As there are no questions apparently, I beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts as presented to the meeting.

Mr. RICHARDSON—Gentlemen, I have very much pleasure in seconding the motion. At the same time I would like to congratulate the directors and the staff upon the very efficient way in which they have worked for us, as is witnessed in the magnificent report before us. (Applause).

Carried.

Mr. STOKES—Gentlemen, there is a matter which I should like to bring to your notice and which deserves special attention. It is the remuneration paid to our directors. As far as I can ascertain we have not increased their fees since 1869, and considering the tremendous lot of extra work that we are doing and the volume of business that is passing through our hands, I think we ought to consider the remuneration we pay to our directors. Other companies have increased the payment to directors owing to two or three reasons, one being the great fall in exchange and the depreciation of the Mexican dollar. I therefore think that no shareholder here can have any other opinion than that our directors have worked very hard for us in the past and are now working in our interest, and have a lot of special work in hand which a great many of us do not know of, but which I happen to know is not paid for in the way it ought to be. Therefore I have very great pleasure in submitting the following proposal:—“That the fees of the directors be increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 each per annum, and that the sum of \$3,500 be

hereby voted to the Board as an addition to their fees for the past half year, and that the directors be hereby requested to take steps for the altering of the articles of association to put into effect the first part of the resolution.” (Applause). I shall be happy if any gentleman will second this resolution.

Mr. MODY—I beg to second the resolution. The directors fully deserve this increase. They have shown an excellent report for the past half year, and as you know “the labourer is worthy of his hire,” and that saying we must take into consideration. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN—Before putting this resolution to the meeting, gentlemen, I would merely like to remark that the fees paid to the directors have been somewhat inadequate. I am speaking for myself—I am not answerable for my colleagues about that. There has been an excessive amount of work thrown upon the directors for a long time past, and I think it was a matter which the directors themselves could not bring forward—did not desire to bring forward, I am very glad to find Mr. Stokes and Mr. Mody bringing forward this proposal. Unless any gentleman has any remark to make about this resolution I will put it to the meeting.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—On behalf of the directors and myself I have to thank you for your very good opinion. I hope we shall be able to show very good reports to justify what you have done. (Applause).

Mr. BECKER—Gentlemen, I beg to propose that the appointment of Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving as director be confirmed.

Mr. HUGHES—I beg to second.

Carried.

Mr. ARNOLD—I have very much pleasure in proposing the re-election of the retiring directors, Messrs. St. C. Michaelson and J. H. Lewis.

Mr. VERNON—I beg to second.

Carried.

Mr. PARFITT—I beg to propose that Messrs. Thomas Arnold and S. G. Bird be re-elected as auditors.

Mr. MITCHELL—I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting, gentlemen. I am very much obliged to you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow. I am very happy to state that the first month's working—the month of January—has been a particularly good one—not a record one, but a particularly good one, and we have a nice lot of work in hand. (Applause). I hope the next report will be as favourable as this one. (Applause).

The following is the report of the Board of Directors:—

To the shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited.

Gentlemen,—The directors have now to submit to you their report, with a statement of accounts for the half-year ended 31st December last.

The total receipts for the six months are \$1,252,282.24, and the net profit, after paying interest due and all charges, amounts to \$402,713.90 to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account \$5,260.40

and from this have to be deducted—

Directors' fees \$3,500.00

Auditors' fees 500.00

4,000.00

leaving available for appropriation \$483,974.30

The directors recommend that a dividend for the half year of 8 per cent. or \$125,000.00, and a bonus of 4 per cent. or \$62,500.00, equalling together \$187,500.00, be paid to the shareholders, a bonus of \$20,000.00 to contributing shareholders, a bonus of \$22,000.00 to the European staff of the Company, that \$200,000.00 be passed to reserve fund, and the balance \$54,474.30 carried to new account.

During the half year the lengthening of No. 2 Dock has been completed, and good progress has been made in the erection of the new quarters for the staff.

The new machine shop at the Cosmopolitan Dock has been finished, and the new overhead travelling crane has been erected and is at work. It has been

found necessary to increase the quarters for the staff at the Cosmopolitan Dock and this increased accommodation is nearly completed.

The plant and tools at all the Company's establishments have been maintained in a thorough state of efficiency.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. J. J. Keswick having left the colony, the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving has been invited to the vacant seat on the Board. The appointment requires to be confirmed at this meeting.

In accordance with clause 60 of the articles of association, Messrs. Michaelson and Lewis retire by rotation, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. J. Kramer has been appointed Chairman for the year 1896.

AUDITORS

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Thos. Arnold and S. G. Bird. The directors recommend these gentlemen for re-election.

GEO. B. DODWELL, Chairman.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT, JULY TO DECEMBER, 1895.

31st Dec., 1895.	ASSETS.	\$ c.
Aberdeen.		
To value of Aberdeen Docks, as per last statement	100,000.00	
Kowloon.		
To value of Kowloon Docks, as per last statement	\$1,065,865.40	
Less amount since written off	65,865.40	
	\$1,000,000.00	
Amount paid balance of cost No. 2 Dock extension ...	1,884.06	
Amount paid on account of 16 new houses	29,000.00	
	1,030,884.06	
Cosmopolitan Dock.		
To value of Cosmopolitan Dock, as per last statement	311,058.88	
Less amount since written off	61,058.88	
	250,000.00	
Amount paid on account of new fitting shop and plant added	16,219.46	
Amount paid on account of new European quarters	1,000.00	
	267,219.46	
Tug, Launches, and Lighters.		
To value of same as per last account	21,453.71	
Less amount since written off	6,453.71	
	15,000.00	
To value of 11 steam launches, 1 steam lighter, and boats	28,250.00	
To sundry debtors	104,677.40	
To Hongkong and Shanghai Bank; cash on current account	92,722.01	
To cost of material on hand	782,420.52	
	\$2,421,173.45	

31st Dec., 1895.	LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
By shareholders for 12,500 shares of \$125 each fully paid-up	1,562,500.00	
By Admiralty loan £20,000.00.0		
Less repayments	6,362.15.9	
	£13,637. 4.3 @ 2 1/2	128,350.23

By Admiralty loan exchange adjustment at credit of this account	8,485.10
By sundry creditors	233,863.82
By balance of profit brought forward from last account	\$ 85,260.40
By profit	402,713.90
	487,974.30
	\$2,421,173.45

31st Dec., 1895.	REVENUE ACCOUNT.	\$ c.
To cost of labour, material, and working expenses at the Company's three establishments		
	813,986.74	
To interest	10,987.71	
To fire insurance	1,283.98	
To Crown rent	1,480.55	
To office expenses, salaries, stationery, and rent of head office	17,826.24	
To drawing office expenses and salaries	3,216.00	
To telegrams	663.47	
To legal expenses	153.65	
To profit	402,713.90	
	\$1,252,282.24	

1st July to 31st Dec., 1895.	\$ c.
By gross earnings of the Company's three establishments	1,247,632.71
By towage net earnings	4,285.34
By transfer fees	98.00
By bonus on premia, &c.	266.19
	\$1,252,282.24

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors to the fifth ordinary annual general meeting of shareholders to be held on Saturday, 7th March:—

To the Shareholders of the National Bank of China, Limited.

Gentlemen,—We have now the pleasure to submit to you the accounts for the half-year ending 31st December, 1895 (those for the half-year ending 30th June having been sent to you in August last).

The additional profit earned during the half-year amounts to \$31,077.28, which with \$40,501.16 brought forward from 30th June makes the total of undivided profits \$71,578.44, from which the directors propose to transfer \$20,000 to the reserve fund and to pay the same dividend as before, i.e. 2s. 6d. per share; this at 2s. 1½d. (the sterling rate on 31st December) = \$1.17 out here, which absorbs \$47,359.60, leaving the sum of \$24,218.84 to be carried forward to next account.

Mr. Gillies and Mr. Chow Tung Shung retire in rotation from the Head Office Board, and Mr. Buttery from the London Committee, and being eligible for re-election offer themselves accordingly.—Your obedient servant,

HERM STOLTERFOHT, Chairman.
Hongkong, 11th February, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Capital, 750 fully paid founders shares of £1 each (at par of 3s.)	5,000.00	
Capital, partly paid £326,376 (at par of 3s.)	2,175,839.99	
Reserve fund	50,000.00	
Notes in circulation	454,795.00	
Fixed deposits, current and other accounts.	2,354,560.39	
On drafts, acceptances and endorsements (bills re-discounted)	2,674,693.67	
Balance of profit and loss account	71,578.44	
	\$7,786,467.49	

ASSETS.	\$	c.
Cash on hand and at Bankers	768,858.03	
Government securities belonging to the Bank	176,272.32	
Bills receivable, loans and advances	6,437,155.12	
Furniture, stationery, and stamps	40,519.44	
Adjusting account (exchange and interest).	363,662.58	
	\$7,786,467.49	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

Dr.	\$	c.
Charges, directors' fees and salaries	56,555.95	
Amount to be placed to reserve fund	20,000.00	
Dividend account, proposed payment of \$1.17 per share on 40,453 shares, 2 6 per share at exchange of 2 14	47,359.60	
Balance to be carried forward to next account	4,218.84	
	\$128,134.39	

Cr.	\$	c.
Balance brought forward from last half year.	40,501.16	
Gross earnings for half year ending 31st December, 1895	87,633.23	
	\$128,134.39	

RESERVE FUND, 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

By amount brought forward from last half year	\$50,000
By amount now to be added, as above	20,000
	\$70,000

To amount carried forward	\$70,000
	\$70,000

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The annual meeting of the shareholders in the Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited, was held on the 25th February, at the offices, 38, and 40, Queen's Road Central. Mr. J. D. Humphreys presided, and there were also present Messrs. Hart Buck (Secretary), J. R. Michael, G. H. Potts, H. Humphreys, A. P. Nobbs, A. H. Mancell, E. S. Kelly, and W. E. Clement.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report is a pretty full one and I do not think there is any necessity for me to say very much. The Company is getting on as satisfactorily as possible. We are developing our land, especially at Kowloon, and we have now entirely built over Richmond Estate with a very superior

class of houses. It might perhaps have been possible to build a class of houses which would have paid better—a low class of houses; but still I do not think it is advisable to build that class of houses on the upper level, and I believe that we have done the right thing in building a class of houses which suits the neighbourhood and which is undoubtedly an ornament to the colony. Anyone who goes and looks, at your Richmond Estate at the present time from any point of view he likes will, I think, agree with me in saying that there is no finer property existing in this colony, and for all I know anywhere else in the world. (Hear, hear.) The houses are all of a very superior class; every attention has been given to the sanitation of the houses; they are, in point of fact, perfect houses; they cannot be made any better than they are. All the judgment and all the knowledge that could be thrown into the building of the houses have been thrown into it, and I think you will find that that will be, as it ought to be, and as was prophesied it would be, one of the healthiest and most charming districts in the colony. Our Kowloon estate is a very different thing; that will be, in the near future, I think, practically city land; it is land, I mean, all on a low level, which may become—will surely become—very valuable property. But there was never any great amount of money in hill land or rural land; the most money is in city land; and it is in the development of your Kowloon estate that I look forward with confidence to see your returns. If we can give a moderate dividend, a fair dividend on the capital of the Company, and at the same time enhance the value of our property several times over, we shall not do badly, and I think it is in the Kowloon estate that we have the pull. If you walk through it you will find it will take you a long time to get through the different roads that intersect the estate, and you will probably think by the time you have finished your walk that you have had enough exercise for that day. I believe that with the opening up of China, which is going to take place very soon I think, and the possibility of a railway to Canton, we shall have a city at Kowloon quite as important as the one on this side. I do not mean to say this will happen to-morrow or the next day, but it will come in time, and Kowloon, of course, is the natural position for a railway. If we are in contact with the mainland when China begins to open up, and when the province of Canton begins to open up, in all probability you will find that the low level land in Kowloon that is nearly opposite the city of Victoria will become very valuable indeed. I should not like to say how valuable, but as valuable as land, we will say, at East Point and West Point at the very least. I shall be pleased to answer any questions that may be put.

No questions were asked, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

Mr. CLEMENT seconded the resolution.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to propose that Mr. Fullerton Henderson be re-elected auditor for the ensuing year.

Mr. POTTS seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow.

The following is the report of the Governing Directors:—

To the shareholders of Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited.

Gentlemen,—We beg to lay before you our report and statement of account for the year ending 31st December, 1895.

The net profit for that period, including \$915.00 brought forward from the year 1894, amounts to \$10,098.61, but as the year under review has received little or no benefit from the present and prospective increase in our rent roll we have added a sum of \$10,400.00 from the equalization of dividend fund, making the amount available for appropriation \$20,498.61, and propose the payment of a dividend of 7 per cent. for the year and to carry forward to the credit of profit and loss \$2,718.61.

By the completion of the public roads which intersect your Kowloon estate, all the subscribed share capital is entitled to dividends earned from 1st January, 1895, necessitating the development of the land thus opened up at once

In addition to villa residences, 74 houses were planned for the Hongkong regiment, including quarters for the commanding officers, a durbar house, and quarters for the married native officers and men. Nineteen of the buildings were completed and occupied towards the end of the year, the remainder are nearing completion and occupation and will be followed by a class of house which is in demand, until the whole of the lots still undealt with are built over.

The Richmond estate also received attention and the detached European houses recently built have been leased, except two, which are not quite finished.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullerton Henderson, who offers himself for re-election.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,

Governing Directors.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Fixed loans and cash on deposit	203,292.91	
Fund for equalization of dividends	30,000.00	
Capital account	254,000.00	
Sundry creditors	6,233.40	
Profit and loss	20,498.61	
	\$514,024.92	

ASSETS.	\$	c.
Amount invested in property	401,700.13	
Amount invested on mortgage	71,892.00	
Sundry debtors	4,935.88	
Office furniture	1,212.50	
Building materials	160.00	
Fire insurance premia unexpired, &c	408.33	
Cash in Hongkong & Shanghai Bank	\$33,575.18	
Petty cash in hand	140.90	
	\$33,716.08	
	\$514,024.92	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	\$	c.
To general charges, repairs, Crown rents, fire insurance, auditor's fees	3,480.37	
To interest	5,628.18	
To remuneration to Governing Directors for management, clerks, and office rent	3,000.00	
To dividend of 7 per cent. on \$254,800.00	17,780.00	
To balance to new account	2,718.61	
	\$32,607.16	

Cr.	\$	c.
By amount carried forward from 1894	915.00	
By rents	15,858.63	
By sales of property and stock, &c	5,919.53	
By transfer fees	19.00	
By transfer from equalization of dividend fund	10,400.00	
	\$32,607.16	

EQUALIZATION OF DIVIDEND FUND.

Dr.	\$	c.
To transfer to profit and loss account	10,400.00	
To balance	30,000.00	
	\$40,400.00	

Cr.	\$	c.
By amount brought forward	40,400.00	
	\$40,400.00	
By balance	\$30,000.00	

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LIMITED.

The seventh ordinary annual meeting of the shareholders in this Company was held at the office of the General Managers at noon on the 19th Feb. Mr. R. Shewan presided and there were also present Messrs. G. H. Potts, S. Benjamin, J. Orange, C. A. Tomes, R. C. Wilcox, J. Murray Bain, Geo. Fenwick, A. C. S. Manners, and F. J. V. Jorge (Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN said—As you are well acquainted with the contents of the report and accounts, which have been in your hands for some days, we will dispense with reading them on this occasion. You will observe that after making provision for all bad and doubtful debts, for depreciation and for special legal expenses, which are not likely to be incurred again, at least to such an extent, and taking over the stocks of raw and wrought material and stores at a safe valuation, we are able to show a net profit of six per cent. on our present capital, and considering the difficulties and discouragements this Company has had to encounter since its commencement I think we are justified in congratulating ourselves on such

a result at last. Our output has increased, while our expenses have proportionately diminished, and as time goes on we hope to gradually introduce further improvements in the manufacture and also greater economies in our expenditure, so that the present result may be considered as only the precursor of better years to come. Turning to the figures in the accounts I see no items in the profit and loss account which do not explain themselves, and as regards the balance sheet I have only to remark that the amounts standing against sundry debtors and sundry creditors have been practically all settled since the date of the accounts, 31st December last. I have now much pleasure in informing you that since that date also the Company has added to its possessions by the acquisition of the business and property of the Hongkong Brick and Cement Company, a kindred concern, which we have purchased outright for \$26,000, and I have no doubt that when I remind you that that concern spent over \$80,000 on what we have bought and that for our \$26,000 we receive, besides the good will and property, roughly about \$10,000 worth of stock on hand, you will agree with us that we have got a good bargain. The working accounts so far as they were made up when we took the business over showed a profit, and as the cost of management will now be much less, while we hope to economize in other directions and at the same time increase the production by improvements and alterations in the machinery, &c., we are satisfied that the business can be worked to advantage for this Company. Concurrently with this purchase we effected the sale in one block of the 1,192 unissued shares mentioned in the balance sheet at the price of \$14 each, or a profit of \$4 per share, nor shall we have to pay anything for legal advice or assistance beyond the actual cost of stamps and court fees, and if you take these facts into consideration as well you will find the purchase a still cheaper one. Those shareholders who concern themselves about the market price of their stock will no doubt consider that we were fortunate in being able to dispose of all these shares at one time, as we should certainly have only weakened the market for them by peddling them out piecemeal. There is just one other matter I would like to refer to. From some unknown friend, who is apparently too modest to give his name, as he makes his communication anonymously, we have received a cutting of our advertisement in the newspaper, with the word "Portland" underlined and the remark "Green Island Cement you mean" pencilled in the margin. Our anonymous friend evidently thinks that Portland cement can only come from Portland, but he is mistaken, and I am glad he has given us this opportunity of putting him and others, for he is not singular in his opinion, right on this point. Portland cement does not necessarily come from Portland, nor even from England, and although it may surprise our friend to learn it, it is none the less true that Green Island cement is Portland cement and that this Company makes and sells no other cement but Portland cement. Portland cement never was made at Portland and the name, which I admit is somewhat misleading, was simply taken from its supposed resemblance to the limestone of the island of Portland, which at the time the artificial mixture now known as Portland cement was invented was in great favour in England as a building stone. It is chiefly made at various places on the Thames and the Tyne in England and also in France, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway. Green Island cement is in every respect true Portland cement and there is no reason whatever why Portland cement should not be produced at Macao as good as the best imported from the countries I have mentioned. On the contrary, there are many reasons why it should be better. I have dwelt on this point as I find there are many people under this same misapprehension as to what Portland cement really is, and now if there are no questions from shareholders I will proceed to move the adoption of the report and accounts as laid before you.

No questions were asked and Mr. WILCOX seconded the adoption of the report and accounts.

Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The next business is the election of the consulting committee.

Mr. BENJAMIN—I propose the re-election of Messrs Ewens, Li Seng, Orange, Fenwick, and Chater.

Mr. MANNERS second.

Carried.

Mr. BAIN—I beg to propose the re-election of Messrs Henderson and Cox as auditors.

Mr. WILCOX seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen.

THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following report (on work done during the month of January, 1896) from the Manager at the Mines:—

Mining.—The very best attention has been given to all work coming under this head and I am pleased to say a fair amount of work has been got through. Our prospects continue to look encouraging, notwithstanding the fact that the ore won has been of rather low grade.

August Shaft 200 ft. Level.—There is really no change to report at any of the points being operated on here. The north drive on Gillies' Reef is still in very broken ground and letting out water freely. A crosscut has now been started to go out East to see if the payable ore is in that direction. The course of ore we had passed through, and referred to in my last report as being about 5 ft. wide, has been driven on and proved not to belong to the main East and West reef. It is simply a floating or intrusive piece of reef having no defined trend or dip. We have now begun a crosscut north to see if we can pick up the continuation of our East and West reef in that direction. I may remark here that this crosscut is west of the "slide" which cut off this reef as it was followed west. We have succeeded in finding payable ore to the west of this slide in the upper workings and I see no reason why we should not do so here.

Intermediate Level.—All points at work here continued to maintain their average output of ore, and I am pleased to say the quality seemed to improve somewhat at the latter end of the month. The western chute of ore on the E. and W. reef shows fairly well, and I can now see a large reserve of ore for the mill at and above this level.

New Leader.—Most of the points operated on here are yielding ore for the mill and from all appearances will do so for many months yet. It is here that we have discovered the payable ore referred to in an earlier part of this report, as being to the west of the "slide." As a whole, I do not think the mine ever looked more promising than it does to-day.

Drivage.—The total drivage for the month is 266 ft. 6 inches and the ore mined 999 tons made up as follows:—

August Shaft ... 648 tons

New Leader ... 351 tons

Of course this does not include many hundreds of feet of stoping.

Milling.—This was carried on during 27½ days, crushing 1,000 tons, yielding of smelted gold 364 ozs. 2 dwts. T.

General.—The usual attention has been given to all work coming under this head. Roads into the jungle to reach our timber reserves have been extended and a gang of men set to work to open the water race preparatory to the erection of a water wheel to assist in driving the mill machinery. The calcining plant is well in hand and should be completed within the next fortnight.

I regret to have to report the breaking out of pleuro-pneumonia among our cattle, causing the death of sixteen head and thereby involving much loss and trouble. You will be able to form some idea of this when I tell you our cartage amounts to about 700 tons per month and has to be brought in from distances varying from one to three miles. We have managed to keep the mine and mill going, however, and I now think we shall continue to do so.

Gold Stealing.—I am pleased to say this has abated and I am in hopes of stamping it out altogether.

Labour.—The supply of this was very short in the early part of the month, but has now become more plentiful.

Health.—This is now fairly good again.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall for the month is 2½ inches.

RAUB.

The following is the mining manager's report for the four weeks ending February 6th, 1896:—

Ranb Hole No. 2 Shaft.—The main drive going south at the 220 feet level has been extended 19 feet, making the total distance from the crosscut 89 feet. The ground is still hard black slate. The lode formation is about 3 inches wide, but shows no gold. The uprise being put in from the back of this level to meet the winze is now up 19 feet; there is still 13 feet to rise to hole through to the winze. This I hope to complete during the next two or three weeks. Owing to the inexperience of the coolies at this class of work and hardness of the ground it has been very difficult to get this work done at all. We have also been greatly troubled with bad air until I put in a water drop to ventilate it. The rise is almost dry, although the winze above has 57 feet of water standing in it. The lode formation in the rise is from 3 to 4 inches wide, but shows no gold.

Main Drive going North.—This has been extended 23 feet from the crosscut. The lode here is the same as in the south drive and the same remarks will apply to this as to the south drive.

120-foot Level.—The small cross leaders being worked at this level still continue to show good gold. The one in the drive going west towards the old original Raub hole workings shows a vein no thicker than a knife blade. In places it is a thin speck of almost pure gold in hard black slate. I have sunk a winze on the leader going east from this level and am now down about 20 feet. The leader still carries gold, but is not quite so good as in the drive above. This winze is perfectly dry and the ground is good working black slate. Although these leaders turn out very little crushing stuff there is a good deal of gold in it.

Bukit Koman.—The stopes over the back of the main level are not looking quite so well as they were at the date of my last report. The lode has become more mullocky in places. In the face of the north stopes the lode has contracted to from six to seven feet, the same as it did in the level below. But in the south end both the stopes and the level are looking remarkably well, especially the leading stopes and the face of the main drive. In the stopes over the back of the level the lode is from 15 to 18 feet wide and shows good gold, with every appearance of widening as it goes down. The face of the level is 60 feet ahead of the stopes, all in solid ore for seven feet wide; how much wider the ore is I cannot say. The whole face shows fair gold. There is a good deal of water coming from this end, which until the last few feet was almost dry. A large quantity of crushing stuff has been sent to the mill from these stopes during the month.

Engine Shaft.—The water has all been got out and sinking resumed; six feet has been sunk, making the total depth below the 146 ft. level 95 feet. I hope to have the shaft sunk the required depth and opening timber placed in position during the next month. The work of cutting the No. 2 chamber and fixing the new 10 in. pump will then be proceeded with. A new brass liner has been fitted to the pump in this shaft, the old one being worn out.

No. 2 Air Shaft South.—This has been sunk and timbered to a depth of 124 feet. From 70 feet (the bottom of old workings) the shaft has been sunk in the lode, which shows fair gold all through. I do not intend sinking this shaft deeper until I break through with the intermediate level going towards it 40 feet above the main level. This gives us over 110 feet of backs still to work in these stopes.

Bukit Malacca.—A boiler and steam pump have been fixed at this shaft and sinking was resumed this morning.

Western Lode.—Stoping is being carried on as usual. I find as we rise in the stopes that the gold bearing formation extends much further south than I expected, giving a much larger

extent of payable ground to work. Very fair gold can be seen in breaking the ore; of late this section of the mine has turned out much better than I expected. There is still a large extent of ground available for stoping.

Battery.—Since the battery started after the general clean up on January 7th, it has been kept steadily at work night and day. On Monday, the 3rd inst., a rough clean up took place; 1,134 tons of ore crushed yielded 1,350 oz. amalgam. Crushing was resumed again the same day and has been kept going steadily since. A new assay office has been built for the purposes of assaying the ore and tailings. It was found that the vibration from the battery in the old office was too great to allow the weighing of the samples, &c., correctly.

WM. BIBBY,
Mining Manager.

LI HUNG-CHANG ORDERED TO ST. PETERSBURG.

Peking, 11th February.

An Imperial Decree orders Li Hung-chang to proceed as Special Envoy to St. Petersburg to represent the Chinese Emperor at the ceremonies of the Czar's coronation. He takes with him many costly presents and will leave here as soon as navigation opens.

Peking, 15th February.

It is arranged that Li Hung-chang will leave Tientsin about the 28th instant, and the steamer *Haian* has been telegraphed for to be ready. He will be accompanied by Shao Yu-lien, ex-Acting Governor of Formosa, Taotai Ma Kien-chong, late Manager of the China Merchants, Wang Chih-chang, ex-Minister to Russia, and Mr. Pethick. Ma and Wang have both been ordered to prepare for their journey. Li will have all his honours restored to him before leaving. His selection is believed to be an act of friendship on the part of Count Cassini.

Shanghai, 19th February.

Passages for Li Hung-chang and his suite have been taken to Marseilles in the French mail steamer *Ernest Simons*, which leaves here early in March.—*China Gazette*.

NEWS FROM KOREA.

Shanghai, 19th February.

On the 10th of this month a hundred Russian marines were marched up to Seoul with a machine gun, for the protection of the Legation, and the next day there was another *coup d'état* at the palace. The Ministers were dismissed, Kim, the Minister President, and Tei, the Minister for Agriculture, being killed and their bodies dragged through the streets. The other Ministers escaped, but a royal order for their execution has been issued. The King of Korea and the Crown Prince removed to the Russian Legation and there organised a new Cabinet. The Taiwonkun and his son were also taken to the Russian Legation. This news is from private sources and from a Japanese telegram quoted in the *Nagasaki Shipping List*. We learn further that the rebellion in Chung-chingdo has assumed serious dimensions, the Governor of the province having cut his throat to avoid being burnt alive by the mob. Ten Japanese soldiers who were sent to quell the riots have been all killed by the rioters.

Shanghai, 20th February.

What the unbiassed friends of Japan warned her would happen when she attacked China in order to secure the independence of Korea has come to pass, and Russia has now established her protectorate over the Korean Court and Government. If Japan had not wanted a war in 1894 she could have come to an arrangement with China for the supervision of the government of Korea, but she wanted the peninsula to herself, and she has turned China out only, as she was forewarned, to let Russia in. If she had sent good men to Seoul when the Chinese were expelled, and had been very careful as to the character of the men whom she allowed to go on their own account to exploit the country, she might have maintained her suzerainty, for though the hatred of the Japanese is traditional in Korea, the Korean does not altogether forget the beneficent influence of the showers of dollars that descended upon him while the Chinese were

being driven beyond the Yalu. Unfortunately, it was too often Japanese of the lowest and least reputable classes who descended upon Korea in the wake of Japan's victorious armies, and their conduct revived and intensified the old established Korean hatred. Meanwhile the Japanese Legation, instead of using its powers to deport these men who were doing all they could to injure their own country, occupied itself and harassed the Koreans with the imposition of petty worrying reforms. However good their intentions may have been, they did not succeed in conciliating the Koreans or the foreign powers represented in Korea. Many of the Koreans whom they succeeded in winning over to their side revolted and became pure patriots when they had climbed into power by the Japanese ladder. Then came the despairing despatch of Miura to Seoul, and his clumsy cutting of the knot, with the aid of the King's father the Taiwonkun, by the murder of the Queen. Unfortunately the Japanese did not stop at this. They put in power a Cabinet of their creatures, making the King virtually a prisoner in his own palace, a prisoner with the sword of Damocles always hanging over his head. On the 28th of November last a futile endeavour was made to rescue the King from the hands of his usurping Cabinet.

What the Koreans unaided could not do the Russians have now done for them. They have taken the King and the Crown Prince from the power of their enemies and put them in safety under the Russian flag. They have taken the Taiwonkun and his grandson Li Chai-men, and hold them securely. They have sent the usurping Cabinet packing, two of the Ministers having been killed in the tumult, and the others having the death penalty hanging over them if they are found. These are the men who recently had the audacity to announce to the world that the Queen's death and dishonour were due to three Koreans only, who were accordingly executed; Pak, who, they tried to have it believed, killed the Queen single-handed; Yi, who confessed under torture to having magical power over the soldiery; and Yun, who found the Queen's body thirty-six hours after the murder and buried it. Of this Cabinet, then, two members are killed and the rest are fugitives; but it is doubtful whether they will be able to make good their escape. There is more excitement in being a Cabinet Minister in Seoul than even in Paris; changes come quite as often, and there is the additional chance of being killed at the first crisis. A new Cabinet has now been formed under Russian protection. We know that it is the conviction of Mr. Waerber, the Russian Chargé at Seoul, that the Koreans can govern themselves successfully if they are let alone. The best thing to be hoped now for the country is, that there will be no more interference on the part of Japan or any other power, but that the King and his new Cabinet will be left for a little while to see if they can rule Korea, and that the Western powers will agree to secure them a fair field and no favour.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The *Kobe Herald* of the 13th February gives the following particulars:—News of a startling nature is to hand from that hotbed of exciting developments—Seoul. Russia apparently has resolved to show her hand at last and to strike for undisputed mastery in the Hermit Kingdom. The stroke has long been awaited. What the consequences will be it is impossible to predict. Meanwhile, however, the Czar's influence is paramount in the Court at Seoul, and the more important friends of, and sympathisers with Japan have fallen victims to the sword. The facts are thus related by the *Osaka Asahi*. During the night of the 10th and early on the morning of the 11th a large force of Russian marines (127 is the number mentioned) marched into Seoul from Jinsen, with one field piece. No opposition appears to have been offered to the intruders. The King of Korea with the Crown Prince repaired to the Russian Legation and there, in the presence of M. Waerber, H.I.R.M.'s representative, a new Cabinet was organized. The new Cabinet consists of Kim Pyong-sai, Premier; Pak Chong-yang, Home Minister; Li Wan-yong, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Agriculture, Commerce and Industry, and Education; Li Yun-yong, Minister of War and Superintendent-General of Police; Chong Pyong-chik, Minister of Finance. The late

Ministers have been dismissed, some in the very effectual manner characteristic of Eastern lands in constitutional crises. Kim Hoing-Chip, ex-Premier, and Chong Pyong-ha, ex-Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry have been killed, and their bodies have been exposed at various places in the city. This unfortunately has not sufficed to appease the wrath of the reactionaries, as a royal decree has been issued for the arrest and beheading of Cho Wi-yon (until recently Minister of War) and several others. Cho Wi-yon and Yu Kil-sun (Minister of Home Affairs) managed to evade their pursuers for the time being, but it is doubtful whether they will be able to make good their escape. The Taiwonkun and Li Chai-men (ex-Minister of the Household) have been transported by force to the Russian Legation. Such is the news. There only remains to be added that no Japanese were injured during the disturbances in which the ex-Ministers were butchered.

THE STRANDING OF THE "ON SANG."

Captain Carmichael, late of the *On Sang*, writes as follows to the *China Gazette*—
Hotel des Colonies,
Shanghai, Feb., 1896.

Sir,—In your issue of the 18th instant I notice a report copied from the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 8th instant of the enquiry into the stranding of the steamer *On Sang* in the harbour of Hongkong when under my command. Kindly grant me space for the following explanation.

The steamer struck the Duamale or Cust Rock when entering Hongkong harbour on the night of the 20th of January, and I beached her to prevent her going down in deep water. After I saw the ship safely docked, the cargo discharged, and crew paid off, I was informed by the owners and managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, that there would be no enquiry into the matter as they did not see any necessity. This was on Monday, the 27th of January, and as my contract was finished I had made arrangements for going to Shanghai, and I gladly availed myself of their kind offer of a free passage and left Hongkong on the 30th per *Taisang*, arriving here on the 4th inst. I received on the 12th inst. the following letter from R. Murray Rumsey, Esq., Harbour Master, Hongkong:—
No. 22 M.

"Harbour Department,

"Hongkong, 5th February, 1896.

"Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that a Marine Court, in pursuance of the provisions of Section 13 of Ordinance 26 of 1891, has been constituted to enquire into the circumstances connected with the stranding of the British steamer *On Sang*, Official No. 105,745 of London, on the night of the 20th instant, while under your command.

"The Court will assemble at this office on Friday, the 7th inst., at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon.

"I have to request you will be good enough to attend, and bring such officers and crew to this office, together with such charts, logbooks, and other documents as will assist the Court as to the cause of the stranding in question.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

"R. MURRAY RUMSEY.

Stipendiary Magistrate,

and President of the Court,

"William Vize Carmichael, Esq.,

"Master, steamer *On Sang*."

I replied the same day as follows:—

"Hotel des Colonies."

"Shanghai, 12th Feb., 1896.

"Mr. Rumsey,

"Harbour Master.

"Hongkong.

"Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 5th inst. As I was in Shanghai at the date you mention for the assembling of your court I must protest against any finding of that court during my absence.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

"W. V. CARMICHAEL,

"Late master steamer *On Sang*."

I now not alone protest against the finding

of the court during my absence, but I deny the competency and constitution of the court.

The ordinance under which this court was constituted, Ordinance 26, Section 13, of 1891, reads, that if a shipowner should think himself aggrieved, &c.

In this instance the shipowners did not think themselves aggrieved nor did they ask for any court of enquiry and under this Ordinance they are the only parties who can ask for a court of enquiry. The court also finds that there is reason to believe that I knew there was to be an enquiry and so left the colony. These are the facts: The accident occurred on the 20th ulto. and I did not leave Hongkong for ten days afterwards, during which time I visited the Harbour Office twice and reported to the Receiver of Wrecks, &c., on the 28th ulto., and up to then there was no notice served on me to attend an enquiry.

I should like to finish this letter here, but I must in justice to myself explain to the public the cause of Mr. Rumsey's anxiety for an enquiry.

I brought out the steamer *Esang* in 1892, and was furnished by the Harbour Master in Hongkong with a notice of the wreck of the steamer *Peking* in Bonham Pass, which reads as follows:—

"Position of wreck of steamer *Peking* Gutzlaff Light Ship N. W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. Elliott Rock N. E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E.

"Harbour Dept., Hongkong,

"R. Murray Rumsey, Retd. Com., R.N."

Now Mr. Rumsey's geographical knowledge being limited, and Gutzlaff light-ship being at the time a rock, together with a few minor details such as the bearings being all wrong, I fear I did not value Mr. Rumsey's hydrographic notice sufficiently, and I thought myself justified in saying so in print, especially when the steamer *Benedi* struck the wreck and had to be docked, thereby causing both expense and delay and owing entirely to Capt. Clarke of the *Benedi* going by the bearings given from the Hongkong Harbour Office. I also spoke at the Shipmasters' Society in London, and I certainly did not use gloves when handling the subject.

Apologizing for the extreme length of my letter, and thanking you for your valuable space.—I am, &c.,

W. V. CARMICHAEL.

Late master steamer *On Sang*.

NATIVE REPORTS OF THE LAST OF THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION.

According to an Imperial edict of the 17th instant wired to this port, Tung Fu-hsiang, Generalissimo of the Imperial forces in Kansu, reports successes against the Tungani rebels in that province, and apparently this rebellion is now on its last legs. It will be remembered that in November and December last this General succeeded in raising the siege of Hsichou and Hsining after a number of fiercely contested battles before the walls of the former city. Here he also succeeded in killing some of the chiefs and this really broke a rebellion which at one time was serious enough to foreshadow the possible installation of a large and powerful Mahomedan kingdom in the north-western dependencies of the Empire. "After the raising of the siege of Hsining," continues General Tung's memorial, "General Ho Tè-piao was sent with a strong brigade of cavalry to drive the rebel bands scattered about the vicinity of that city into their strongholds at Chiangyiasui, Tungkout'an, Machiat'an, etc., on the road to Shuchou near the Great Wall. General Ho was at once joined by General Tèng Tsèng, Brigadier-General of Hsining, with all his available forces, and a series of small but sanguinary battles were fought with the rebels near Hsining on the 16th and 17th of January last. The rebels being finally driven to their fastnesses, Generals Ho and Tèng began the next day (18th) to storm Chiangyiasui, the first of the fortified villages held by the rebels. All this and next day the Imperial forces, gallantly led by General Ho, furiously stormed the rebel positions, and although twice severely wounded this officer refused to retire and have his hurts properly dressed until he had succeeded in capturing all four of these villages, which formed a group mutually supporting each other. At the last

of the four villages named Yangmaokou, the principal chief of the western section of the rebel forces, named Mullah Miao Yakub, with a strong band of followers, made his last stand and fought with all the energy and courage of despair until shot by a bullet from the Imperial ranks. Encouraged by the death of their most determined opponent the Imperial troops swept all before them and no quarter being given the rebels perished to a man. The fall of these villages raised the siege of two Buddhist fortified towns near them and the country for a hundred miles was soon cleared of every armed Mahomedan. There now only remain a few fortified towns north-west of Hsining still held by the rebels, who are now thoroughly disheartened and fleeing to the Mongol grass country to the north and west of Hsining.—*N. C. Daily News*.

NEWS FROM THE CAPITAL.

Peking, 18th February.

The Viceroy Wang has presented a memorial from several hundreds of the Chihli gentry against the Tientsin-Lukou-Bridge Railway, and the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has also memorialised against the road as dangerous to the capital. The Emperor, however, is determined to build the road and in his instructions yesterday to his Ministers he bade them advance in every way the knowledge of the value of foreign sciences throughout the country, mentioning several times the superiority of Japan in this respect, the want of which has brought shame and danger to the Empire. There was talk today amongst some of the Palace officials that the Empress-Dowager does not favour the idea of the ex-Viceroy Li's journey to Russia owing to his great age. The Emperor has empowered the making of a special gold seal for the use of the Imperial Ambassador who is to go to Russia and a silver one for the Vice-Ambassador.

Shanghai, 18th February.

A telegram received from Peking, from our native correspondent, announces that on Chinese New Year's day while granting audience to his Ministers, the Emperor referred to the closing of the Reform Club as something treasonable to the dynasty, whereupon several of the Manchu and Chinese Board Presidents spoke in eulogistic terms of the Club and warmly defended the reform movement against the denunciations of the Censor Chang. The defenders even went the length of being prepared to stand guarantors of the association, remarking, by the way, that the late war had fully demonstrated the necessity of spreading the knowledge of Western sciences throughout the empire, without which China would certainly be made the subject of foreign aggrandisement. His Majesty seemed to be impressed with what he heard, and appeared to regret having listened too hastily to the aspersions of interested pessimists. There are therefore hopes of the speedy resuscitation of the Reform Club, but under another name, in Peking.

Shanghai, 17th February.

From Peking news has come of the appointment of H.E. Li Hung-chang and H.E. Shao Yü-lien as representatives of the Emperor at the forthcoming coronation of the Czar at Moscow. Quiduances, noting that Marquis Ito, Li Hung-chang's intimate friend, is to represent Japan at Moscow, and that Count Cassini, Russian Minister to China, and Mr. Hitrovo, Russian Minister to Japan, are also going home, apprehend that the meeting of these politicians will result in a new triple alliance between Russia, China, and Japan; but it seems doubtful whether the Government in Japan can spare Marquis Ito, and it is also doubtful whether the feeling against Russia in Japan can be so smoothed over as to admit of the conclusion of an alliance between the two countries. As to the great ex-Viceroy, his nomination is probably due to the desire of his enemies at Peking to get him out of the way, and to divert from his pockets whatever profits he might derive from the contracts for new armaments which China is supposed to be about to make. His enemies, too, it is suggested, have concluded that no Chinese statesman is so readily able to bear, as Li undoubtedly is, the cost of the presents which the Chinese representative must take with him to Moscow. Possibly Li himself is

not sorry to go away for a time and let the Government try how it can get on without him. He is to be represented in the negotiations for the new commercial treaty with Japan by H.E. Chang Yin-huan, a Minister of the Tsungli Yamén, and formerly Minister to the United States, Spain, and Peru. It is also reported from Peking that the opening of the West River is conceded in principle, but that the negotiations for the indemnity loan have not yet reached a conclusion.—*N. C. Daily News*.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The second race for Mr. Pollock's Cup took place on Sunday, the 16th February, in the usual Sunday weather. The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round the north fairway buoy and a mark boat of Lyemun, finishing at the starting line; 12 miles. The following boats started:—

Meteor	Mr. T. W. Lammert	Scratch.
Erica	Mr. A. Denison	45 seconds.
Dart	Mr. A. H. Barlow	2 minutes.
Ladybird	Mr. J. Hastings	3 "
Payne	Royal Engineers	3 "
Stella	Capt. Sterling	6 "
She	Mr. C. H. Gale	10 "
Aileen	Lieut. Lee Dillon	12 "

The boats were sent off at 11.15, and Erica, Meteor, Stella, Ladybird, and Payne crossed the line at intervals of a few seconds in the order named; She, Dart, and Aileen being 3, 4, and 9 minutes late respectively. A light east breeze carried them down to near the *Empress*, where the wind changed to north, and near the fairway buoy to north-west. The Ladybird was the first round the buoy at 11.45, thanks to a luffing match between the Meteor and Erica, which resulted in the Erica getting round second at 11.47.54, then Meteor 11.50.52, Stella 11.53.40, and Payne 12.1.45. The She and Aileen gave up, being becalmed about halfway between the start and the buoy. Dart kept on, but her time was not taken. From the buoy to Kowloon Point the leading boats were barely able to stem the last of the flood tide, and off the breakwater the Stella, Payne, and Dart came along with a good west wind and closed up on the leaders. Ladybird still kept the lead, with Erica and Meteor in close attendance, and the Lyemun mark was rounded in the following order—Ladybird, Erica, Meteor, Stella, Payne, and Dart, the last being some way astern, but the other five were round inside five minutes. The wind fell very light from south-west in the beat up, and the boats kept close in to the shore to avoid the strong ebb tide. When the leaders were off Quarry Point a good north wind came down, and Ladybird getting it first went away with a long lead, Erica being next, and Meteor third. This wind kept up to the finish, but was very light off Kowloon Point.

FINISH.

	H.	M.	S.
Ladybird	3	19	2
Erica	3	22	15
Meteor	3	32	21
Stella	3	53	5
Payne	3	55	11
Dart	3	58	0

The marks gained by the boats for this competition are:—

Erica	14
Ladybird	11
Meteor	5

HONGKONG.

The annual race meeting was held during the week, but unfortunately the weather was not very favourable, and the course, owing to the recent heavy rains, was in a bad condition. But notwithstanding these adverse circumstances there was a very large attendance on each day and the races were, from a sporting point of view, most successful. Yesterday week the crew of the barque *Lynnwood*, which was wrecked off the Pratas, were picked up in an open boat off Gap Rock lighthouse and conveyed to Hongkong. During the week the shareholders in the following companies met:—China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, Green Island Cement Company, Limited, Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited, and the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited.

There were 6,571 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 183 were Europeans.

Mr. Kyshe, late Sheriff of Singapore, arrived on the 24th Feb. by the *Glenorchy* to take up his new appointment of Registrar of the Supreme Court here. Mrs. Kyshe accompanies her husband.

The Hon. Treasurer of the *Edgar Relief Fund* begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following:—

Proceeds of Signorina Belinfante's Concert... \$53.60
Brought forward... 1,117.00

Total up to date... \$1,170.60

On Sunday a Chinaman, who was very likely a foreman coolie, was found dead on the hill at the side of a pathway about a mile east of Deep Water Bay. The body was taken to the West Point mortuary by the Stanley police, who were informed of the discovery by a coolie. It is supposed that the deceased was murdered, as not only had he several bruises on his face, but his queue was tied tightly round his neck.

Alarmist reports appear to be in circulation outside the colony with reference to the plague. It may be well to state, therefore, that only sporadic cases are occurring and that the disease is not epidemic. The total number of deaths since the beginning of the year is 154, giving an average of three per day. No alarm is felt by the authorities, but every precaution is of course being taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

Mr. Gordon, of Hankow, who is at present staying at Mount Austin Hotel, met with a ricksha accident on the evening of 17th Feb. He was going to the Masonic Ball with Mrs. and Miss Gordon and after leaving the tram got into a ricksha. The driver unfortunately lost control of his vehicle going down the hill, with the result that Mr. Gordon was thrown out and sustained rather serious bruises about the face and body.

On the afternoon of the 18th Feb. at a meeting of the Phoenix Chapter of the Rose Croix, No. 17, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, the following officers were installed by the M. W. S.: Sir Kt. G. A. Watkins:—M.W.S., Sir Knight F. Howell; H.P., Sir Knight G. Moffatt; S.W., Sir Knight J. I. Andrews; J.W., Sir Knight G. Mollison; Treasurer, Sir Knight C. Lesbirel; Secretary, Sir Knight F. Walker; Master of Ceremonies, Sir Knight T. Spafford; Chancellor, Sir Knight J. H. Thomas; I.G., Sir Knight F. Uthe; Equerry, Sir Knight J. Maxwell.

Four men armed with revolvers entered a second hand clothes shop at 163, Queen's Road West, at seven o'clock on Sunday night. One of them quietly proceeded to order a coat, and while he was thus attracting the attention of the master his companions fastened the door. The robbers then caught hold of the master and two assistants, tied their queues together, and under threats of instant death made them close their mouths. The shop was then ransacked, but the robbers did not take away much, as they could lay their hands on only \$20 in money and \$26 worth of clothing. The police are making inquiries into the affair.

A strange discovery was made on board the C.N. Co.'s steamer *Whampoa* at Shanghai on Sunday, the 16th February. Some five or six months ago, in the course of a voyage from Australia, a package containing £500 in gold was delivered by the captain to the second officer and by him safely locked up in the treasure room. Shortly afterwards the lock was found to have been forced and the package stolen. A strict search was at once made, but with no result. Nothing had been heard either of money or thief until the 16th, when, we learn from the *N. C. Daily News*, on Messrs. Boyd & Co.'s workmen removing a portion of the flooring of the galley, over two hundred sovereigns were found. All the members of the crew who could be found were handed over to the police, but several had made themselves scarce in the meantime. A further large sum is said to have been traced and there are hopes of the greater part of the money being recovered.

Nearly every Friday morning Mr. Justice Wise has to sit in judgment at the Supreme Court in money lending cases in which the lenders are generally Indians attached to the

Asiatic Companies of the Royal Artillery, who take good care to get their pound of flesh if they possibly can. Mr. Wise has now adopted a course which will doubtless have the effect of lessening this evil, which seems to be as common here as in many large towns in England, where money lending at extortionate rates of interest has aroused considerable attention. In a case at the Supreme Court on the 21st Feb. an Indian sued a Portuguese for \$30. The plaintiff lent the defendant \$13 on condition that the principal and \$17 interest should be paid back in ten days. Without troubling to reckon up the extraordinary rate of interest this Shylock charged, Mr. Wise ordered that the \$13 should be paid in eight days, and the interest in monthly instalments of \$1 each. In the next case, Mr. Wise remarked, he would give an order for yearly instalments. The latter warning will no doubt be a bitter pill for those Indians to swallow who think they can extort what interest they like out of their victims.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

CANTON, 25th February.—Macao Congous.—The only settlements reported during the past month are 900 Boxes at Tls. 114 per picul, which probably closes the season. For the Continent, Australia, and South America nothing has transpired. The first arrivals of the New Crop may be expected in three or four weeks. Scent d Capers.—The season closes with a total export of 5,655,000 lbs. Stocks in native hands carried over are estimated at 25,000 Boxes.

SILK.

CANTON, 25th February.—Tsatlees.—Nothing doing. Re-reels.—There has been some enquiry for offers in this class, but the prices at which the small remaining stock is held have proved prohibitive, and the only business reported is a sale of 25 bales Grantried No. 1 \$545. Filatures.—Buying was continued for Lyons, but principally by one firm, on the opening of the market after the China New Year holidays, and, under this influence, prices advanced with great rapidity \$30/50 per picul on good chops and \$20/30 per picul on third class silks. In some instances, aided by somewhat improved advices from Lyons, holders obtained an advance of \$25/30 per picul, but the endeavour to secure still higher prices, combined with the rise in exchange, checked further business. The improvement reported from Lyons gained no further development, and the market closes with a decidedly weaker tone. Among prices paid we quote: \$670/660 for Kwong Shun Cheong 11/13, 13/15, \$660 for Kwong Lun Fung, Kwong Sun On and Luen Kee 10/12, \$645 for Kwong Sun On 13/15, \$655 for Kwong King Cheong 10/12, \$625/630 for Fair 2nd class 10/12, \$565/535 for 3rd class 11/13, 13/15. The balance in all kinds available to the end of the season is estimated at fully 10,000 bales. Business with America has remained very dull throughout. Waste.—Has been in fair demand at former rates, but with a rather weaker tone. Stocks.—Tsatlee, 800 bales, Filatures, 10,000 bales, reeled and unre-reeled, to close of season.

SHANGHAI, 20th February.—(From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's circular.)—London advices are to 18th inst. quoting a steady market. Gold Kilins 8/0. Blue Elephants 10/3. Raw Silk.—Business has hardly been resumed since the native holidays, and the general opinion is that present range of values here is restricting business. Firm offers on a basis of Tls. 345 for Gold Kilins so far meet with no response from consuming markets. Settlements since our last issue aggregate about 550 bales, say 250 bales Tsatlees, 250 bales Coarse Silks, and 50 bales Tussah Raws at quotations below. Waste Silk and Pongees.—No transactions.

Purchases include:—Taysam.—Mountain 3 at Tls. 405, do. 4 at Tls. 392½, Gold Lion at Tls. 370, Gold Kiang at Tls. 342½. Hongchow Tsatlees.—Pagoda Tingchow at Tls. 330. Taysam.—Wh. Kah. Lily Flower 1 at Tls. 370, 9/12 Moss Green Stork Extra at Tls. 352½, do. Double Butterfly 2 at Tls. 318½. Yellow Silk.—Mienchew at Tls. 235 to Tls. 242½. Filature.—Black Horse 2 at Tls. 495. Wild Silk.—Tussah Filature 8 Cocoons at Tls. 257½, do. Raw No. 3 at Tls. 150.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 26th February.—Prices are lower than last reported, but the market is now firm.

Quotations for Formosa are \$78.50 to \$79.00. During the past week sales have been 150 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 26th February.—There have been few arrivals since the China New Year holidays and prices are advancing. Following are the quotations:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...\$7.37 to 7.40 per 1-cl.
do. " 2, White... 6.76 to 6.80 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... 4.75 to 4.78 "
do. " 2, Brown... 4.62 to 4.65 "
Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.27 to 7.30 "
do. " 2, White... 6.73 to 6.75 "
do. " 1, Brown... 4.62 to 4.65 "
Swatow, No. 2, Brown... 4.57 to 4.60 "
Hoochow Sugar Candy.....10.92 to 11.00 "
Shekloong " 9.85 to 9.87 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Glamorganshire*, Hongkong to London, 1st February, took:—709 packages Matting, 200 cases Soy, 203 cases Camphor, and 7 packages Merchandise; for Hamburg:—155 cases Camphor, 50 cases Britles, and 136 bales Feathers; for Antwerp:—385 bales Split Bamboo; for Manchester:—100 bales Waste Silk; for London option Hamburg option Antwerp:—144 bales Bamboo Bass.

The steamer *Lennox*, Hongkong to New York, 5th February, took:—16,066 rolls Matting, 200 cases Cassia Buds, 190 cases Preserves, 137 cases Chinaware, 157 bales Rattancore, and 943 packages Merchandise.

The steamer *Merionethshire*, Hongkong to London, 10th February, took:—204 bales Canes; for Hamburg:—163 rolls Matting, 100 cases Camphor, 65 cases Ginger, 97 bales Canes, 30 bales Rattan Shavings, and 481 packages Merchandise; for Antwerp:—130 bales Split Bamboo, for London optional:—70 bales Split Bamboo, 30 boxes Essential Oil, and 482 packages Merchandise.

The British steamship *Ningchow*, Hongkong to London, 18th February, took:—30 cases Blackwood, 24 packages Gun Mountings and Naval Stores, and 2 bales Feathers; for Manchester:—1 case Cigars; for Glasgow:—7 cases Blackwood. From Manila for Rotterdam:—75 bales Leaf Tobacco.

The steamer *Caledonien*, Hongkong to Continent, 19th February, took:—201 bales Raw Silk, 9 cases Silk Piece Goods, 1 bale Piece Goods, 1 box Jade Stones, and 35 packages Tea.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 26th February.—Bengal.—There has been a further decline in prices owing to a falling off in the demand. Closing quotations are \$795 for New Patna, \$807½ for Old Patna, \$777½ for New Benares, and \$800 for Old Benares.

Malwa.—The market has ruled quiet and a small business has been done at slightly reduced rates. Latest figures are as under:—

New.....\$760 with allowance 1½ to 2 catties.
Old.....\$770 " 0 to 1½ "

Persian.—There has not been any change in prices, quotations continuing at \$630 to \$670 for Oily, and \$700 to \$760 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—
New Patna 580 chests
Old Patna 1,210 "
New Benares 650 "
Old Benares 390 "
Malwa 390 "
Persian 1,540 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Feb. 19	805	815	785	807½	760	770
Feb. 20	800	815	785	802½	760	770
Feb. 21	800	810	785	802½	760	770
Feb. 22	800	810	785	802½	760	770
Feb. 23	795	807½	785	802½	760	770
Feb. 24	795	807½	785	802½	760	770
Feb. 25	795	807½	777½	802½	760	770
Feb. 26	795	807½	777½	802½	760	770

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 26th February.—Prices of Bengal are being gradually worked down, owing to the supply exceeding present requirements. Stocks: Bengal, 3,300 bales; Ningpo, 500 bales.

Bombay\$14.00 to 18.00 p. pl.

Kurrachee	\$14.00 to 18.00	p. pl.
Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca	16.00 to 17.25	"
Shanghai and Japanese..	19.00 to 21.00	"
Tungchow and Ningpo..	13.80 to 21.20	"
Madras	15.00 to 18.00	"
Sales: 825 bales Bengal, Rangoon and Dacca, 120 bales Tungchow and Ningpo.		

RICE.

HONGKONG, 26th February.—Owing to the strong demand from Canton prices are again advancing. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.40 to 2.42	per picul.
" Round, good quality	2.51 to 2.54	"
" Long	2.74 to 2.75	"
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	2.62 to 2.65	"
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	2.77 to 2.80	"
" White	3.07 to 3.10	"
" Fine Cargo	3.22 to 3.25	"

COALS.

HONGKONG, 26th February.—No business reported. Quotations unchanged and nominal.

Cardiff	\$12.00 to —	ex ship, nominal.
Australian ...	7.50 to 8.00	ex ship, nominal.
Milke Lump...	\$5.60 to 5.75	ex ship, steady
Milke Small...	4.85 to —	ex ship, do
Moji Lump ...	4.00 to 5.50	ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Lump...	6.00 to 7.00	ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Small...	4.00 to 4.50	ex ship, nominal.
Hongay Lump.	7.00 to —	ex ship, nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 26th February.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn.*—850 bales No. 10 at \$73 to \$79, 570 bales No. 12 at \$73 to 77.50, 670 bales No. 16 at \$81 to \$94, 785 bales No. 20 at \$90 to \$94. *Grey Shirtings.*—600 pieces 8½ lbs. 3 Dogs at \$3.05, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$3.90, 750 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$3.20, 360 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Joss at \$2.80. *White Shirtings.*—200 pieces K.K. at \$3.74, 250 pieces Elephant No. 450 at \$4.00, 500 pieces Gold Joss at \$3.27, 250 pieces 1 at \$2.90. *Victoria Lavens.*—1,000 pieces Violet Stag at \$0.69. *T-Cloths.*—300 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican V.V. at \$2.96, 75 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.40. *Drills.*—150 pieces 14 lbs. Elephant at \$3.75. *Turkey Reds.*—100 pieces 4½ lbs. Clock at \$2.85, 100 pieces 4½ lbs. Clock at \$2.92, 200 pieces 5 lbs. Clock at \$3.17, 200 pieces 6 lbs. Clock at \$3.92. *Long Ells.*—300 pieces 8½ lbs. Scarlet Tiger at \$6.90. *Camlets.*—80 pieces Dark Blue, 3 Cask at \$21.50, 200 pieces 4 Cocks assorted at \$13.50, 200 pieces, Indigo, C. F. K. C. at \$21.50.

Metals.—*Iron.*—2,000 bundles Nail Rods, Belgian, No. 1/6 at \$3.05, 100 cases Nail Rods, Belgian, at \$4.32, 100 piculs Wire Nails fine at \$7.10. *Lead.*—420 piculs Australian at \$6.90. *Yellow Metals.*—60 cases New Brand 10/14 ozs. at \$25.50, 50 cases New Brand 14/32 ozs. at \$24.25. *Tin.*—200 slabs Foongchai at \$35.75, 350 slabs Siam at \$35.25. *Steel.*—500 boxes Bamboo, Bear, at \$4.25. *Quicksilver.*—450 flasks at \$116 to \$116.50.

SHANGHAI, 20th February.—(From Mr. Geo. W. Noë's report.)—The natives have entered on their New Year with what was thought at first renewed vigour, but it seems to have been only "a flash in the pan," the business recorded during the last three days being merely of the customary complimentary type usual at this time of the year. There is no doubt the past year has been a very satisfactory one to them all, and considering the back way they had to make up at the beginning of the season a net profit of six to seven lacs is not to be despised, and that is what they are reported to have made. The Native Banks have done a little better than that. On the 17th inst., the 5th day of the moon, the day set apart for propitiating the Sycee God especially, the dealers first made their re-appearance and eagerly enquired about the price of silver, rate of exchange, and other sordid items that had been banished from their minds for a few days, and no doubt in return for the information received felt constrained to put their names to a few contracts, although they must have quite a superfluity of most descriptions either here or on the way. They found sterling rates fairly steady and holders not inclined to be exacting, but as the merchants were not prepared to enter into transactions at this early period they were perforce obliged to curtail their purchases, although the news from the outports is said to be very encouraging, especially Tientsin, where prices appear to be about on a parity now with those ruling here, and it is said the dealers are already busily engaged re-selling to the merchants for that market. They are so well supplied with

most descriptions of goods there is little necessity to call on importers, 8.4-lbs. Shirtings being the principal commodity they are short of, consequently most attention is being paid to them. For other markets there is but little enquiry; clearances, however, have already commenced, and there is every promise of the trade being resumed much more promptly than usual the Native Banks offering every facility for this, over forty of them issuing their cheque books on the 5th of the moon, the first day they could possibly do so. The auctions are in full swing again, and considering several of the dealers have not returned from their homes yet prices are not unsatisfactory, but can scarcely be taken as a criterion of what the market will be when all have settled down regularly to business.

Metals.—(From Mr. Alex. Biefield's report.)—21st February.—The native year just past has been a fairly profitable one for the Chinese dealers and in consequence many have not yet finished their feasting and rejoicing or are waiting for a "lucky" day on which to resume business under the most favourable auspices. Nothing particular has been done yet, but everyone seems hopeful that a good year is entered on. Political complications still threaten to disturb this part of the world, but it was hardly to be expected that perfect peace would immediately reign after the conclusion of the late war, which ended in putting both Asia and Europe on the "qui vive." Some 1,000 tons Sobiers Exp. Nailrods have been placed at 109/- to 110/- "to arrive" within two months. Quotations are now 113/- 50 tons English Red Iron and 230 cases Galvanized Corrugated Iron are also reported. Lead.—The home market remains as last advised, and on this side 100 tons Australian at Tls. 5.30 and 50 tons L.B. at Tls. 5.42 have changed hands. Some little business has been done in Copper and Yellow Metal at current rates. A sale is reported of 50 cases German Silver at Tls. 48. Bamboo Steel, 1,500 boxes Double Horse have been settled.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 26th February.—Business ruled slack during the week owing to a great extent to the Race holidays; at time of closing, however, the market is fairly active and strong, and we have several important improvements in rates to record.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled firm and shares have changed hands at 172, 172½, 173, and 174 per cent. prem., closing with buyers at the latter rate. Other Bank stock has continued neglected at quotations.

MARINE INSURANCES. have continued in demand, and rates have risen. China Traders have found further buyers at \$76, and more shares are wanted at the rate. North-Chinas and Yangtszes have improved to quotation without sales. Cantons have been neglected, but could probably be placed at \$190. Unions have found buyers at \$195 in small lots, and Straits are in demand at \$25½.

FIRE INSURANCES.—The demand for Hongkongs continuing the rate has risen to \$297½, after sales at \$292½, \$295, and \$297½, market closing firm. Chinas have been negotiated at \$89 ex div.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have changed hands in fairly large quantities at \$32½ and \$32¾, closing with sellers at latter rate. Indo-Chinas are still enquired for in the North, and rates have risen to \$63 after sales at \$60, \$61, \$61½, and \$62; market closes with further buyers at \$63. Douglasses have been very quiet with small sales at \$52½.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are still enquired for at \$112. Luzons remain unchanged with no business.

MINING.—Punjoms, after changing hands at \$5.25, \$5.50, \$5.75, \$5.90, and \$6, close steady at last rate. We have nothing else to report under this heading, other mining stock having ruled quiet at quotations with no business.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks during the early part of the week changed hands at 151 per cent. prem. cash and at 152½ and 153 per cent. prem. for 31st March cum div.; at time of closing sales have been effected at 149 per cent. prem. ex div. and more shares are wanted at the rate. Kowloon Wharves, after further sales at \$44½, have changed hands at \$45 and \$45½, closing steady at latter rate. No business to report in Godowns.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Lands have continued in good demand and have found

investing buyers at \$72, \$72½, and \$73, closing firm with buyers at last rate. Hotels have ruled firm with small sales at \$22½ and \$23. West Points continued neglected.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Watsons have found buyers at \$11½ and more could be placed at the same rate. Fenwicks have changed hands at \$22, Ices at \$98, Tramways at \$85, and Ewo Cotton Mills at \$65.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	174 p. ct. prem., =
China & Japan, pref.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred	£1	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$105, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s.	\$10
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	\$5, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$5, buyers
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$9
China Sugar	\$100	\$112, buyers
Chinese Loan '86 E.	Tls. 250	10 p. ct. prem.
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$9
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$22, sales & buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$13½, sales & buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$100, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$6.75, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$85, sales & buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$23, sales & buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$93, sales & buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$45½, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$150, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	140 p. c. pm., = \$300
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$190
China Fire	\$50	\$89, ex div. sales
China Traders'	\$25	\$76, sales & buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$297½, buyers
North-China	£25	Tls. 222½, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$25½, buyers
Union	\$25	\$ 95, sales
Yangtsze	\$60	\$123, buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$73, sales & buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$8.50, ex div.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$15½, sales & buyers
West Point Building	\$40	\$18½
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$59, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Tcs. 500	\$72½
Jebeu	\$5	\$3, sellers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$1.80
Punjom	\$4	\$6, sales & sellers
Do. (Preference)	\$1	\$2, sales
Rams	13s. 10d.	\$4.30
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$70, sellers
China Shippers	£5	£2.10
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$52½, buyers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$32½, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$63, buyers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$39, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11½, sales & buyers

CHIATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 21st February.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—A fair business has been done since the Chinese New Year holidays finished. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—There is only one transaction to report at \$351.25 (181 per cent. premium). We now quote \$339.37½ (171½ per cent. premium) as the closing rate ex dividend. Our latest Hongkong advices quote buyers at \$341.25 (173 per cent. premium). The London rate is £41.10.0. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have been purchased from Hongkong at \$59. Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat shares were sold to Hongkong at \$37½. Docks.—Shares in S. C. Farndum & Co. have been placed at Tls. 191 cash and Tls. 19 7/191 for delivery on the 29th current. Marine Insurance.—Yangtszes have been sold at \$122½ cash and \$125 for delivery on the 30th April, and are wanted. Fire Insurance.—Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. Shares have been sold to Hongkong at \$299 and \$291.25. China Fire Insurance shares have changed hands at \$85 ex dividend. Wharfs.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been placed at Tls. 105. Mining.—Sharidans have been sold at Tls. 2½ and Jebeus at \$5. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were placed at Tls. 38. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment fully paid up shares have been placed at Tls. 80, and Hongkong Land Investment shares at \$70, both locally and to Hongkong. The former are offering, and the latter are wanted. Factories.—Ewo shares have changed hands at

Tls. 65. Miscellaneous.—A Shanghai Gas share was sold at Tls. 260, but this price is not offering for a quantity. Shanghai Waterworks shares were placed at Tls. 200. Shares in J. Llewellyn & Co. have been placed at \$70, and are wanted.

WEDNESDAY, 26th February.
CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	—
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.76
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.82
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.24
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	—
Credits, 60 days' sight	—
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	179½
Bank, on demand	180
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	179½
Bank, on demand	180
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	½ % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	11 %
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	½ % pm.
SOVEREIGNS. Bank's Buying Rate	8.93
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tola	47.70

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 26th February.—Since last report there have been but a moderate number of fixtures at about previous rates.

From Saigon to Hongkong the rates close firm at 13 cents per picul for tonnage to load in about 10 days.

From Bangkok there is a fair enquiry at 15 cents to load outside and 20 cents to load inside the bar.

Japan coal freights are weak at \$1.20 per ton to Hongkong and \$1.55 to Singapore.

There are 3 vessels disengaged in port, registering 2,874 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Independent—German steamer, 1,003 tons, Sourabaya to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Cumarty—British steamer, 1,864 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.

Rion—British steamer, 1,740 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.

Oron—British steamer, 1,323 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.25 per ton.

Strathmore—British steamer, 2,292 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.

Lyderhorn—Norwegian steamer, 2,014 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Ingraban—German steamer, 894 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 15 and 20 cents per picul.

Chittagong—British steamer, 1,241 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Victoria—Swedish steamer, 983 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Oslo—Norwegian steamer, 780 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.

China—German steamer, 1,092 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Piccola—German steamer, 875 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12½ cents per picul.

Propontis—British steamer, 1,330 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Jacob Christensen—Norwegian steamer, 1,107 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Chumahan—British steamer, 1,282 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Tetartos—German steamer, 1,578 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11½ cents per picul.

Cassius—German steamer, 1,606 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Anjer Head—British steamer, 1,235 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11½ cents per picul.

Cassius—German steamer, 1,606 tons, monthly, 8/4 months, private terms.

Germania—German steamer, 1,737 tons, monthly, 6/6 months, private terms.

Federation—British steamer, 1,570 tons, monthly, 6/8 months, private terms.

Ask—Danish steamer, 592 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$3,500 per month.

Amoy—German steamer, 752 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$4,700 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Nerite* (str.), *Berneio* (str.), *Diomed* (str.), *Olenfruin* (str.), *Tantalus* (str.), *Bombay* (str.).
For HAVRE.—*Dorothea Rickmers* (str.), *Oceana* (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—*Oceanien* (str.), *Bellona* (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.).
For BREMEN.—*Prinz Heinrich* (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Brodick Castle*, *Peru* (str.), *Coptic* (str.), *Formosa*, *City of Rio de Janeiro* (str.), *Queen Elizabeth*.
For VICTORIA.—*Hankow* (str.), *Chittagong* (str.).
For NEW YORK.—*Port Adelaide*, *Cerastes*.
For AUSTRALIA.—*Airlie* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

February—ARRIVALS.
18, Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
18, Jacob Christensen, Norw. str., from Saigon.
18, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., from Swatow.
18, Apenrade, German str., from Saigon.
19, Fuk Po, Chinese gunboat, from Pakhoi.
19, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
19, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
19, Hailoong, British str., from Coast Ports.
19, Cassius, German str., from Java.
19, Telena, British str., from Singapore.
19, Afridi, British str., from San Francisco.
20, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
20, Tsinan, British str., from Sydney.
20, Humber, British storeship, from Nagasaki.
20, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.
20, Progress, German str., from Kobe.
21, Sultan, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
21, Taichow, British str., from Bangkok.
21, Swift, British gunboat, from Foochow.
21, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
22, Loksang, British str., from Canton.
22, Nanyang, German str., from Canton.
22, Tritos, German str., from Bangkok.
22, Keemun, British str., from Glasgow.
22, Cosmopolit, German str., from Swatow.
22, Apenrade, German str., from Canton.
22, Cass, Chinese transport, from Woosung.
22, Smith, Chinese transport, from Woosung.
22, Kweiyang, British str., from Bangkok.
23, Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.
23, Centaur, British str., from Sandakan.
23, Dardanus, British str., from Liverpool.
23, Frigga, German str., from Hamburg.
23, Germania, German str., from Canton.
23, Nanchang, British str., from Canton.
23, Rosetta, British str., from Bombay.
24, Taksang, British str., from Canton.
24, Kiangpak, Chinese str., from Canton.
24, Activ, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
24, Esang, British str., from Canton.
24, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
24, Benalder, British str., from Moji.
24, Canton, British str., from Shanghai.
24, Decima, German str., from Saigon.
24, Frejr, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
24, Kwong Mo, British str., from Amoy.
24, Talleé, German str., from Saigon.
24, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
24, Nagato Maru, Jap. str., from K'chinotzu.
24, Verona, British str., from Yokohama.
24, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
24, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
25, Wuhu, British str., from Canton.
25, Arratoon Apear, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
25, Raveuna, British str., from Shanghai.
25, Foochow, British str., from Canton.
25, Singan, British str., from Canton.
25, Glenorohy, British str., from London.
25, Fooksang, British str., from Wuhu.
25, Wing Hong, British str., from Swatow.
25, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Saigon.
25, Petrarch, German str., from Saigon.
25, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
25, Boynton, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
26, Coptic, British str., from San Francisco.
26, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
26, Airlie, British str., from Moji.
26, Kansu, British str., from Canton.
26, Kweilin, British str., from Canton.
26, Formosa, British str., from London.
26, Keong Wai, British str., from Bangkok.
26, Phra Chom Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok.
26, Rhodora, British str., from Saigon.
26, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., from Vancouver.

February—DEPARTURES.

19, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
19, Empress of India, British str., for Vancouver.
19, Apenrade, German str., for Canton.
19, Clara, German str., for Amoy.
19, Cosmopolit, German str., for Swatow.
19, Germania, German str., for Canton.
19, Fuk Po, Chinese gunboat, for Canton.
19, Rohilla, British str., for London.
19, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
19, Taiyuan, British str., for Australia.
19, Wing Hong, British str., for Swatow.
19, Daniel Barnes, Amr. ship, for N. York.
20, Choysang, British str., for Swatow.
20, Frogner, Norw. str., for Bangkok.
20, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
20, Machow, British str., for Bangkok.
20, Oslo, Norw. str., for Saigon.
20, Piccola, German str., for Saigon.
20, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., for Amoy.
20, Taicheong, German str., for Swatow.
20, Telena, British str., for Nagasaki.
21, Benledi, British str., for Saigon.
21, Chwnshan, British str., for Saigon.
21, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
21, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
21, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
21, Victoria, Swedish str., for Saigon.
21, Deuteros, German str., for Bangkok.
22, Loksang, British str., for Shanghai.
22, Peru, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
22, Progress, German str., for Takau.
22, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
23, Apenrade, German str., for Saigon.
23, Chittagong, British str., for Saigon.
23, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
23, Loosok, British str., for Bangkok.
23, Prosper, Norw. str., for Moji.
23, Romulus, German str., for Singapore.
23, Cass, Chinese transport, for Hoihow.
23, Smith, Chinese transport, for Hoihow.
24, Canton, British str., for Canton.
24, Esang, British str., for Shanghai.
24, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
24, Rosetta, British str., for Shanghai.
24, Centurion, British cr., for a cruise.
25, Cosmopolit, German str., for Swatow.
25, Kiangpak, British str., for Shanghai.
25, Activ, Danish str., for Hoihow.
25, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
25, Germania, German str., for Saigon.
25, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
25, Ingraban, German str., for Bangkok.
25, Anger Head, British str., for Saigon.
25, China, German str., for Saigon.
25, Fooksang, British str., for Canton.
25, Frigga, German str., for Yokohama.
25, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
25, Keemun, British str., for Shanghai.
25, Nanyang, German str., for Shanghai.
25, Singan, British str., for Shanghai.
25, Taksang, British str., for Shanghai.
25, Wingsang, British str., for Calcutta.
25, Wuhu, British str., for Shanghai.
26, Kwong Mo, British str., for Amoy.
26, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
26, Siam, British str., for Swatow.
26, Tetartos, German str., for Saigon.
26, Foochow, British str., for Amoy.
26, Glenorohy, British str., for Shanghai.
26, Kansu, British str., for Shanghai.
26, Kweilin, British str., for Shanghai.
26, Tsinan, British str., for Yokohama.

AMOY.

February—ARRIVALS.
17, Formosa, British str., from Hongkong.
17, Cheang Hock Kian, Brit. str., from H'kong.
18, Thales, British str., from Hongkong.
18, Kaifong, British str., from Swatow.
19, Itsukushima, Jap. cr., from Pescadores.
20, Haitan, British str., from Hongkong.
20, Empress of India, Brit. str., from H'kong.
21, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
22, Clara, German str., from Hongkong.
22, Kwong Mo, British str., from Tamsui.
February—DEPARTURES.
17, Kwong Mo, for Tamsui.
17, Formosa, British str., for Tamsui.
17, Hailoong, British str., for Hongkong.
18, Thales, British str., for Taiwanfoo.
19, Kaifong, British str., for Shanghai.
20, Haitan, British str., for Foochow.
20, Empress of India, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
21, Itsukushima, Japanese cruiser, for F'mosa.
21, Cormoran, Ger. cruiser, for Foochow.
21, Arcona, Ger. cruiser, for Foochow.
22, Formosa, British str., for Tamsui.